KC限定トレーディングカード No.9

［最上香耶］

最近第○期食玩マイブームがきて、
コンプリートしまくってます。
主に洋食・和食・デザート系ですが、
最近は“学校モノ”なんかも集めてます。
机とかイスとか教卓とか…
出来がよくて楽しすぎです（笑）

【河方かおるホームページ】
http //www kawakata com/
【携帯サイトホームページ】
http //www.kawakata.com/i/i_index shtml

COVER DESIGN Jun Matsui (Plus Plan)

KODANSHA COMICS

OPEN SESAME

オープンセサミ

VOL.9

KAORU KAWAKATA

河方かおる

KODANSHA COMICS

KCM3401

KC MAGAZINE

OPEN SESAME
オープンセサミ
VOL 9
河方かおる

講談社

OPEN SESAME

VOL. 9

KAORU KAWAKATA

OPEN SESAME

CONTENTS

Check 39 : A Solution For Love / Somewhat Of An Adult Situation 3

Check 40 : Grassy Plains And A Star-light Sky ,A different Person And A Bewildered One 39

Check 41 : Let's Go On A Double Blind Oate 79

Check 42 : Oeansing Wars 115

Check 43 : The World's Crudest Fellow 151

Check 39 : A Solution For Love / Somewhat Of An Adult Situation

NURSE'S OFFICE
ガラッ
PARDON ME,
HERE'S THE QUESTIONNAIRE.
AH, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
COULD YOU PLEASE PUT THAT ON MY DESK?
SURE ...
EH?
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE IN THE NURSE'S OFFICE?

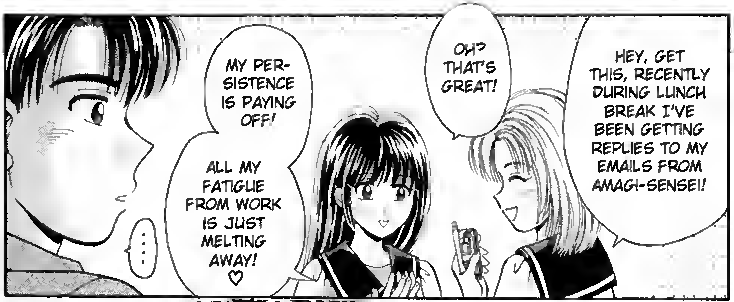
WELL, PROBABLY BECAUSE I NEED THIS INJURY TREATED.
RECENTLY, EVERYONE'S BEEN IMPROVING QUITE A BIT SO MY JOB'S BEEN GETTING TOUGHER.
SO YOU SAY, BUT I BET THE REAL REASON IS TO COME VISIT SHINONOME-SENSEI ISN'T IT?
OH, IS THAT SO?
EH, WELL THAT'S ...
どんっ !!
I..I'M A STRAIGHT-LACED GUY, I WOULDN'T COME FOR THAT.
YOUR NOSTRILS ARE TOTALLY FLARED
MY MY, I CAN SEE YOU TWO ARE PRETTY CLOSE.

HE HE
WE'RE NOT CLOSE!
AT ALL!
AT ALL!
RECENTLY I'VE BEEN FEELING JUST A BIT TIRED.
WELL, I DO HAVE SOME IN SUPPLY, BUT THE BEST ADVICE I CAN GIVE IS TO MAKE SURE YOU KEEP A WELL-BALANCED DIET AND GET PLENTY OF SLEEP AT NIGHT.
AND WAS WONDERING WHAT YOU MIGHT RECOMMEND
WELL, ANYWAY SENSEI, I'VE CONSIDERED BUYING A VITAMIN PREPARATION
WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE PROBLEM?
EH!?
AND I'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU TWO
MY MOTHER HAS SENT ME SOME GOOD EEL,
EH? TOMORROW?
AH WELL, IT'S CONVENIENT YOU'RE BOTH HERE.
WOULD YOU TWO LIKE TO COME OVER TO MY PLACE TOMORROW?

TN EEL IS CONSIDERED A DELICACY IN JAPAN

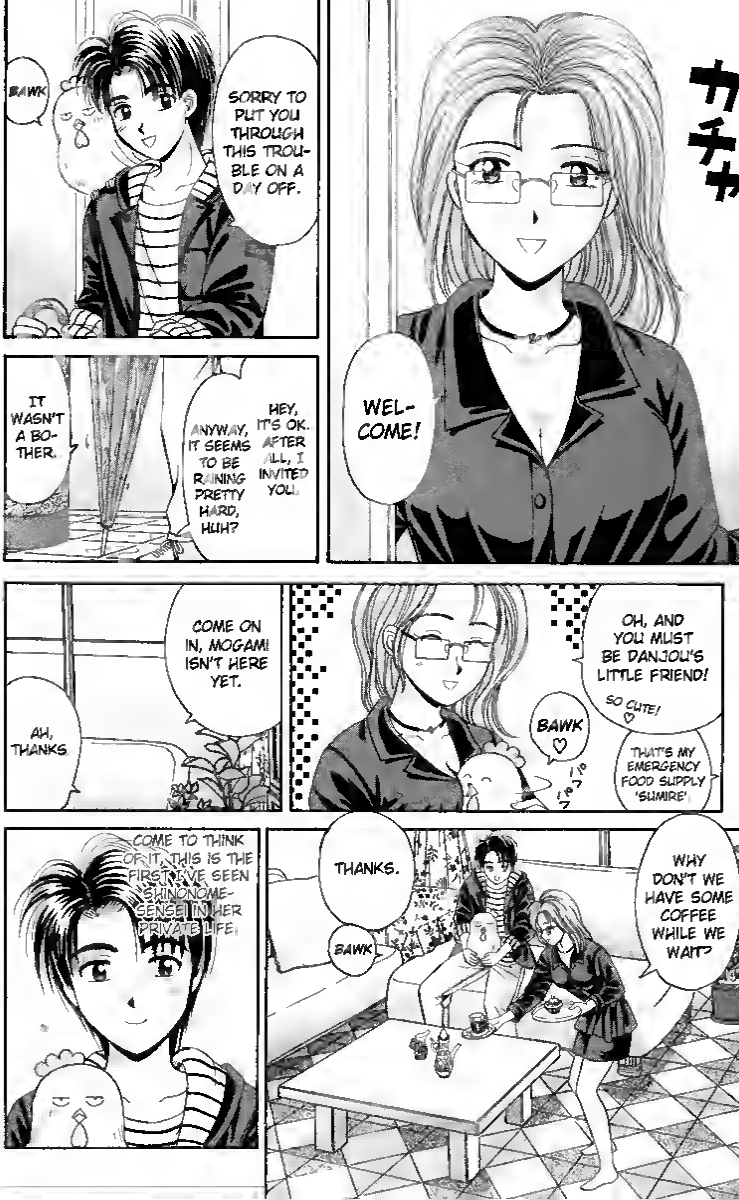
EEL! WHAT LUCK! ♫
YEAH.
SHINONOME'S MOTHER IS FROM FUKUOKA, IT SHOULD BE REALLY DELICIOUS.
I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.
AH!
NOW, DON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT THIS!
WHY'S THAT?
IF WE'RE BOTH SEEN GOING TOGETHER TO THE TEACHER'S HOUSE, PEOPLE MIGHT MISUNDERSTAND.
WHAT'S WITH YOU ANYWAY!
GRRR
HMPH

AH MAKI!

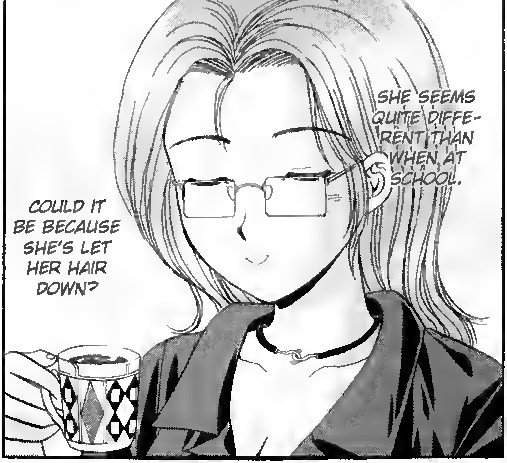

HEY, GET THIS, RECENTLY DURING LUNCH BREAK I'VE BEEN GETTING REPLIES TO MY EMAILS FROM AMAGI-SENSEI!
OH? THAT'S GREAT!
MY PERSISTENCE IS PAYING OFF!
ALL MY FATIGUE FROM WORK IS JUST MELTING AWAY! ♡
...

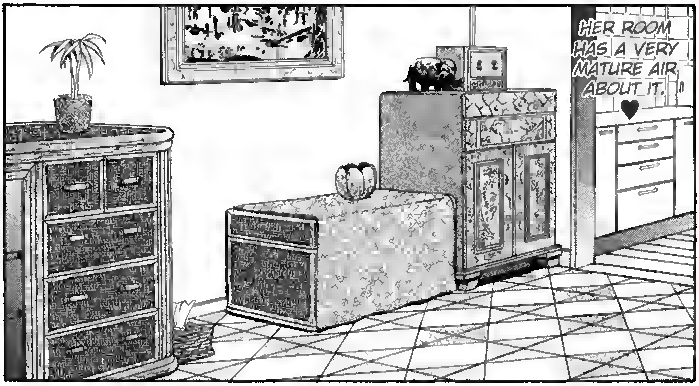
I'M GONNA READ IT AGAIN! ♡
HMMM
ATTA GAL.
TACHIBANA'S REALLY WORKING HARD FOR LOVE.

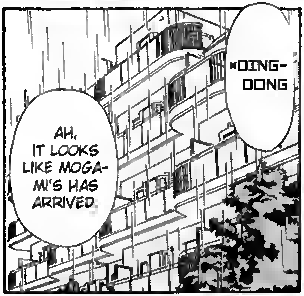
YEAH, OF COURSE!
MAKE SURE TO INVITE ME NEXT TIME THERE'S A CONCERT, I WAS REALLY IMPRESSED BY THAT LAST ONE!
HEY, HEY, SUZUYA-SAN!
HM?
HMM
IT SEEMS EVERYONE AROUND HERE IS STARTING TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN SEX APPEAL
AND OVER HERE TAMANAMI'S REALLY PUTTING FORTH SOME EFFORT
MOGAMI AND I ARE GOING TO SHINONOME-SENSEI'S HOUSE.
BUT, YA KNOW, TOMORROW
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, MOGAMI AND I MAY ACTUALLY BE GETTING A LITTLE CLOSER

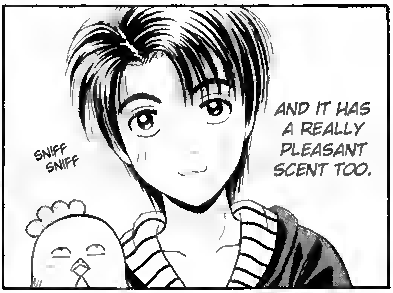

BAWK
SORRY TO PUT YOU THROUGH THIS TROUBLE ON A DAY OFF.
カチャ
WELCOME!
HEY, IT'S OK. AFTER ALL, I INVITED YOU.
ANYWAY, IT SEEMS TO BE RAINING PRETTY HARD, HUH?
IT WASN'T A BOTHER.
COME ON IN, MOGAMI ISN'T HERE YET.
AH, THANKS
OH, AND YOU MUST BE DANJOU'S LITTLE FRIEND!
SO CUTE!
BAWK
THAT'S MY EMERGENCY FOOD SUPPLY 'SUMIRE'.
COME TO THINK OF IT, THIS IS THE FIRST I'VE SEEN SHINONOME-SENSEI IN HER PRIVATE LIFE.
THANKS.
BAWK
WHY DON'T WE HAVE SOME COFFEE WHILE WE WAIT?

AND JUST LOOK AT THIS COFFEE CUP
I CAN'T QUITE TELL HOW MUCH IT MIGHT'VE COST


SHE SEEMS QUITE DIFFERENT THAN WHEN AT SCHOOL.
COULD IT BE BECAUSE SHE'S LET HER HAIR DOWN?

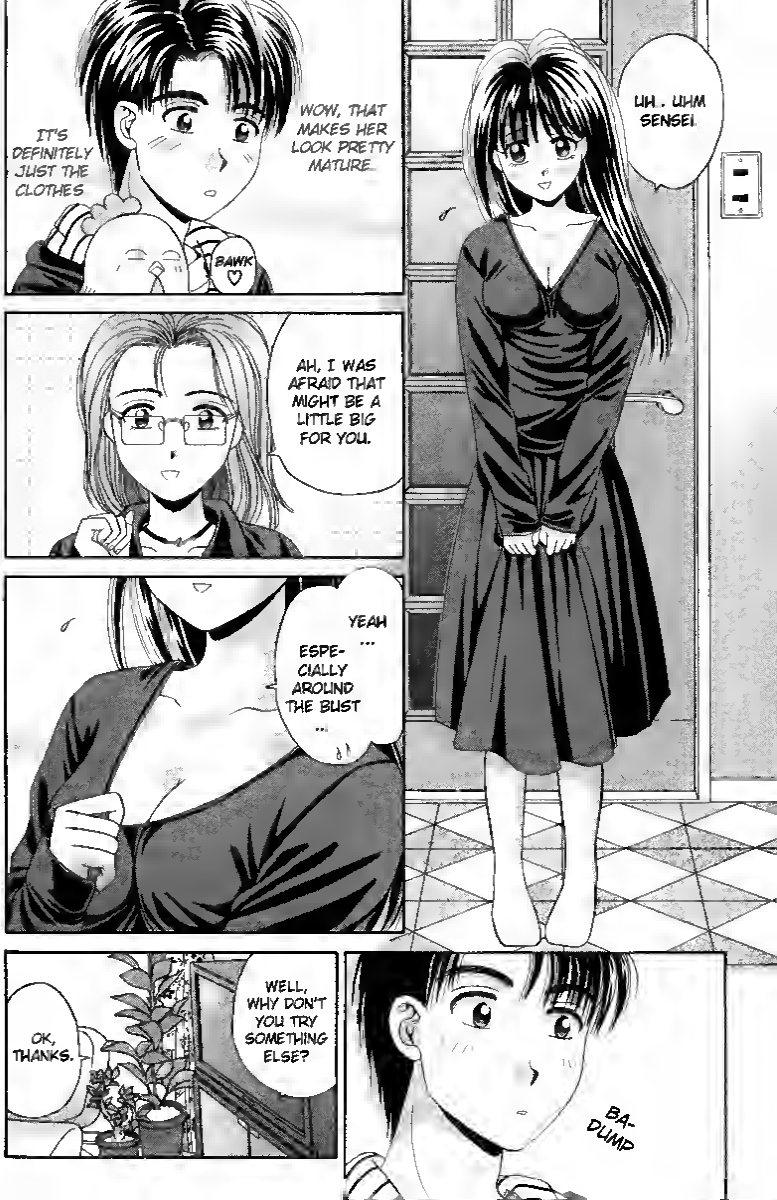

HER ROOM HAS A VERY MATURE AIR ABOUT IT.


*DING-DONG
AH, IT LOOKS LIKE MOGAMI'S HAS ARRIVED.


SNIFF SNIFF
AND IT HAS A REALLY PLEASANT SCENT TOO.

SORRY I'M LATE.
I GOT CAUGHT IN THE RAIN.
OH MY, WAIT JUST A SECOND, LET ME GET YOU A TOWEL AND A CHANGE OF CLOTHES.
I APPRECIATE IT.
DIDN'T YOU CHECK THE WEATHER FORECAST BEFORE YOU HEADED OUT?
BAWK ?
OOH, WHAT'S THIS...? ♡
OH, REALLY
WELL, THE WEATHER SEEMED FINE WHEN I LEFT

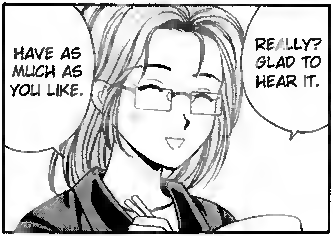
EH, N..NO-THING!
BC.. KAWK!
KY/AHH, WHAT'RE YOU LOO-KING AT?!
KAWK ♡
NOW DON'T YOU DARE PEEK!
HERE, YOU CAN USE THESE UNTIL YOUR CLOTHES ARE DRY.
YOU CAN CHANGE IN THAT ROOM OVER THERE.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
KAWK …
WHO'D WANT TO!
GRRR
HE HE
YOU TWO REALLY HAVE HIT IT OFF WELL, HAVEN'T YOU?
OK, OK.
KAWK
HE HE
SENSE!! DON'T SPREAD A MISUNDERS-TANDING LIKE THAT AROUND, OR IT'LL BE A REAL HEADACHE FOR ME!

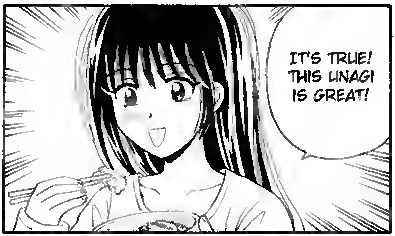

UH. UHM SENSEI.
WOW, THAT MAKES HER LOOK PRETTY MATURE.
IT'S DEFINITELY JUST THE CLOTHES
BAWK ♡
AH, I WAS AFRAID THAT MIGHT BE A LITTLE BIG FOR YOU.
YEAH ... ESPE-CIALLY AROUND THE BUST ...
WELL, WHY DON'T YOU TRY SOMETHING ELSE?
OK, THANKS.
BA-DUMP

BAWK
OOH, THIS TIME SHE'S PICKED AN APRON.
NO PROBLEM, I ENJOY COOKING
THANKS, I APPRECIATE YOUR OFFERING TO HELP.
ぎゅっ
OHHH
BAWK
OK.
WOULD YOU PLEASE CHOP THIS UP?

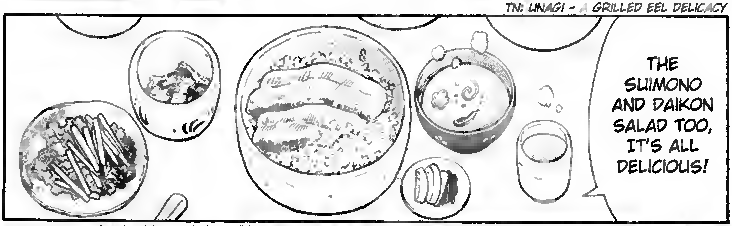
THAT'S PRETTY GOOD!
EHHH... SHE'S PRETTY GOOD WITH THAT!
CHOP CHOP
WHA. WHAT IS IT?
IS THERE SOME-THING I CAN HELP WITH?
RIGHT.
OK THEN, GO WASH THOSE CUCUMBERS.
AW C'MON, I DON'T JUST WANT TO SIT HERE WITH NOTHING TO DO!
BAWK
IT'S OK, YOU'D ONLY GET IN THE WAY.
EH?
TOSS
OK, MOGAMI HERE YOU GO!
DO
DO
*SFX WASH

WHAA ?!
SLIP
HEY! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE PUTTING YOUR HANDS!
OH, UH SORRY ABOUT THAT!
AH!
BAWK ♡
THAT DIDN'T GIVE YOU AN EXCUSE TO GROPE ME JUST NOW!
I DIDN'T DO THAT ON PURPOSE YOU KNOW!
BAWK!
BAWK!
OWW!
IDIOT. YOU PERVERT!
*SFX. SMACK

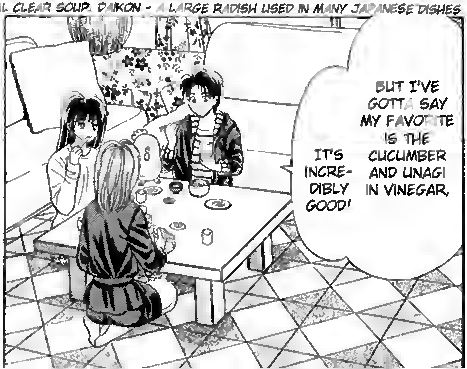




TN: UNAGI - A GRILLED EEL DELICACY



TN: SUIMONO - A TRADITIONAL CLEAR SOUP. DAIKON - A LARGE RADISH USED IN MANY JAPANESE DISHES



SPHTTT
ACTUALLY MOGAMI MADE THIS.
HUH?
.....
IDIOT ...
TH.. THIS IS REALLY GOOD.
BAWK
AHHH, WHAT A MEAL!
HERE, HAVE SOME TEA.
BAWK !
UH.. ..ANYWAY, TRUE HAPPINESS IS A GOOD MEAL WOULDN'T YOU SAY!

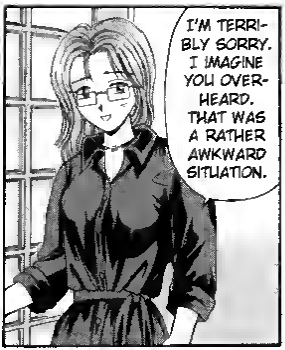
IS THERE A SPECIAL SOMEONE IN YOUR LIFE?
SAY, SENSEI.
YES? WHAT IS IT?
EHHH, SO DO YOU PLAN ON GETTING MARRIED!?
AHH YES,
WELL, THERE IS.
WH.. WHAT DO YOU MEAN!
GLANCE
THAT SEEMS A VERY MATURE OBSERVATION, HUH?
HEY, I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING!
OW OW!
PINCH
DON'T CONSIDER YOURSELF THE JUDGE OF THAT! THAT'S RUDE!
LOVE AND MARRIAGE DON'T ALWAYS GO HAND-IN-HAND YOU KNOW.

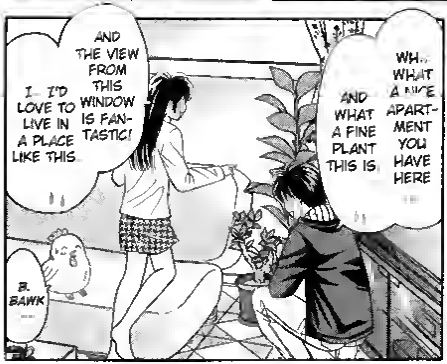
HUH !?
ドキッ
AND DO EITHER OF YOU TWO HAVE SOMEONE YOU LIKE?
EH? IS THAT SO?
BUT RECENTLY, ALL THE OTHER GUYS HAVE BEEN FINDING GIRLS, SO IT'S BEEN A LITTLE WEIRD.
HAWK !
OH, HE'S BEING SHY!
WELL, RIGHT NOW BOXING IS MY LOVE!
EH? ME YOU SAY...?
AND YOU MOGAMI?

AH, OK.
*DING-DONG
OH, PROBABLY A DOOR-TO-DOOR SALESMAN OR SOMETHING, WAIT JUST A MINUTE
I...
*DING-DONG
THIS IS AN INTERESTING SITUATION
I THOUGHT IT WAS AMAGI-SENSEI, BUT THAT TURNED OUT TO BE WRONG.
MOGAMI'S LOVE INTEREST, HUH? WELL, THIS HAS ALL COME UP BEFORE...
I'M A LITTLE NERVOUS...
BA-DUMP BA-DUMP
ONCE AND FOR ALL, I WANT TO KNOW

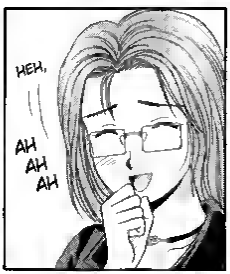
PLEASE LEAVE!
STARTLED
BAWK !?
AYAKA, PLEASE LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY.
WE DON'T HAVE ANY-THING LEFT TO TALK ABOUT.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
JUST GO HOME!
BAWK ?
.....
CHATTER CHATTER

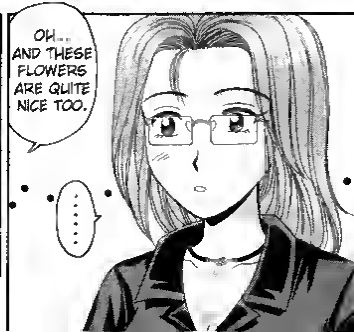
I'M SORRY.
PLEASE JUST LEAVE.


I'M TERRIBLY SORRY. I IMAGINE YOU OVERHEARD. THAT WAS A RATHER AWKWARD SITUATION.


WH... WHAT A NICE APARTMENT YOU HAVE HERE
AND WHAT A FINE PLANT THIS IS.
AND THE VIEW FROM THIS WINDOW IS FANTASTIC!
I... I'D LOVE TO LIVE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.
B. BAWK

EH?


HEH.
AH AH AH


OH... AND THESE FLOWERS ARE QUITE NICE TOO.
.....

AHHH
HAWK
IT'S OK, YOU DON'T HAVE TO PRETEND YOU DIDN'T NOTICE
SENSEI.... THAT WASN'T THE PERSON YOU WERE JUST TALKING ABOUT, WAS HE..?
THE SAME ..
WE'VE JUST BEEN HAVING A LITTLE DISPUTE RECENTLY
ACTUALLY, HE PROPOSED TO ME.
ID..IDIOT THAT'S RUDE!
WHAT HAPPENED?
HAWK ?
IT'S OK.

WHAAT !?
BAWK ?
WHY'S THAT?
BUT I COULDN'T ACCEPT.
HIS PLACE OF WORK IS ALREADY DECIDED.
AND HE ASKED ME TO GO LIVE WITH HIM.
BUT I LOVE THE CHALLENGE OF MY WORK HERE SO MUCH.
THAT THERE'S NO WAY I COULD MAKE THE DECISION TO QUIT.
SO... THERE, YOU SEE?

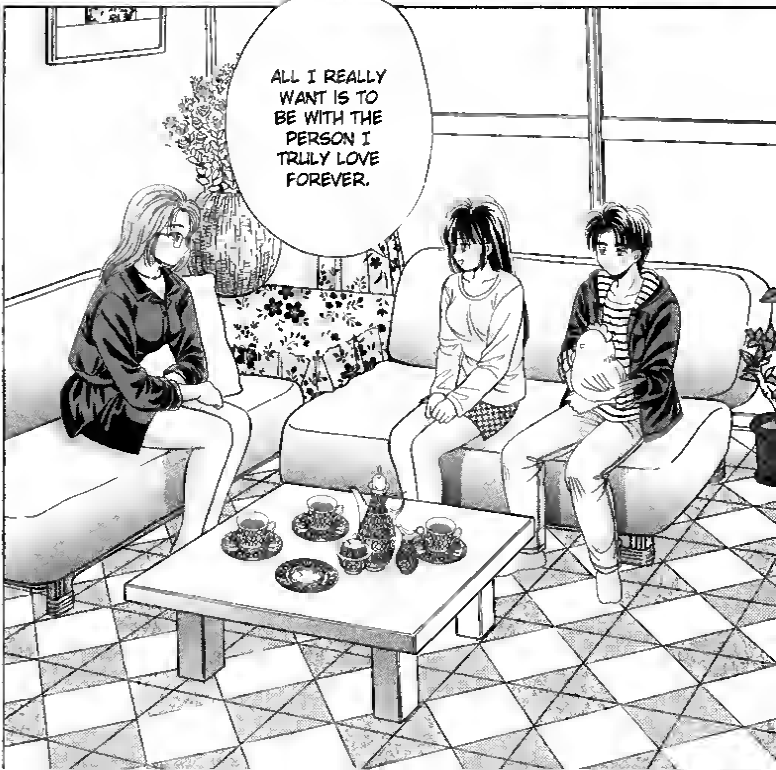
BA-DUMP
JUST THE FEELING OF LOVE ITSELF WAS ENOUGH TO SATISFY EVERYTHING
I USED TO THINK THE SAME WAY WHEN I WAS YOUNGER
EH?
IT'S SO NICE TO BE YOUNG.
BUT I WANT NOTHING MORE THAN TO CONTINUE IN IT.
MY CURRENT JOB IS VERY DEMANDING,
BUT YOU SEE..
THINGS GET QUITE A BIT MORE COMPLICATED AS YOU GROW.
EVERYTHING.
MY WORK, MY SURROUNDINGS.
IF I WERE TO SETTLE DOWN WITH HIM NOW, MY ENTIRE LIFE WOULD HAVE TO CHANGE.

IF YOU SETTLE DOWN WITH SOMEONE BASED ON YOUR FEELINGS ALONE, THERE WILL INEVITABLY COME A TIME WHEN YOU WILL REGRET IT.
IS THAT GOOD ENOUGH? I REALLY DON'T HAVE A BETTER ANSWER.
SILENCE
BUT SENSEI, COULDN'T YOU AT LEAST MAKE UP WITH HIM..
NO, IT'S OK.. IT'S NOT THAT WE'RE REALLY FIGHTING OR HATE EACH OTHER, SO THERE'S NOTHING TO MAKE UP FOR.
WE HAVE A MUTUAL UNDERS-TANDING.
BUT SENSEI ...
BAWK ...
THAT'S JUST THE PROBLEM WITH LOVE.
UNFORTU-NATELY IT DOESN'T COME WITH A MANUAL.

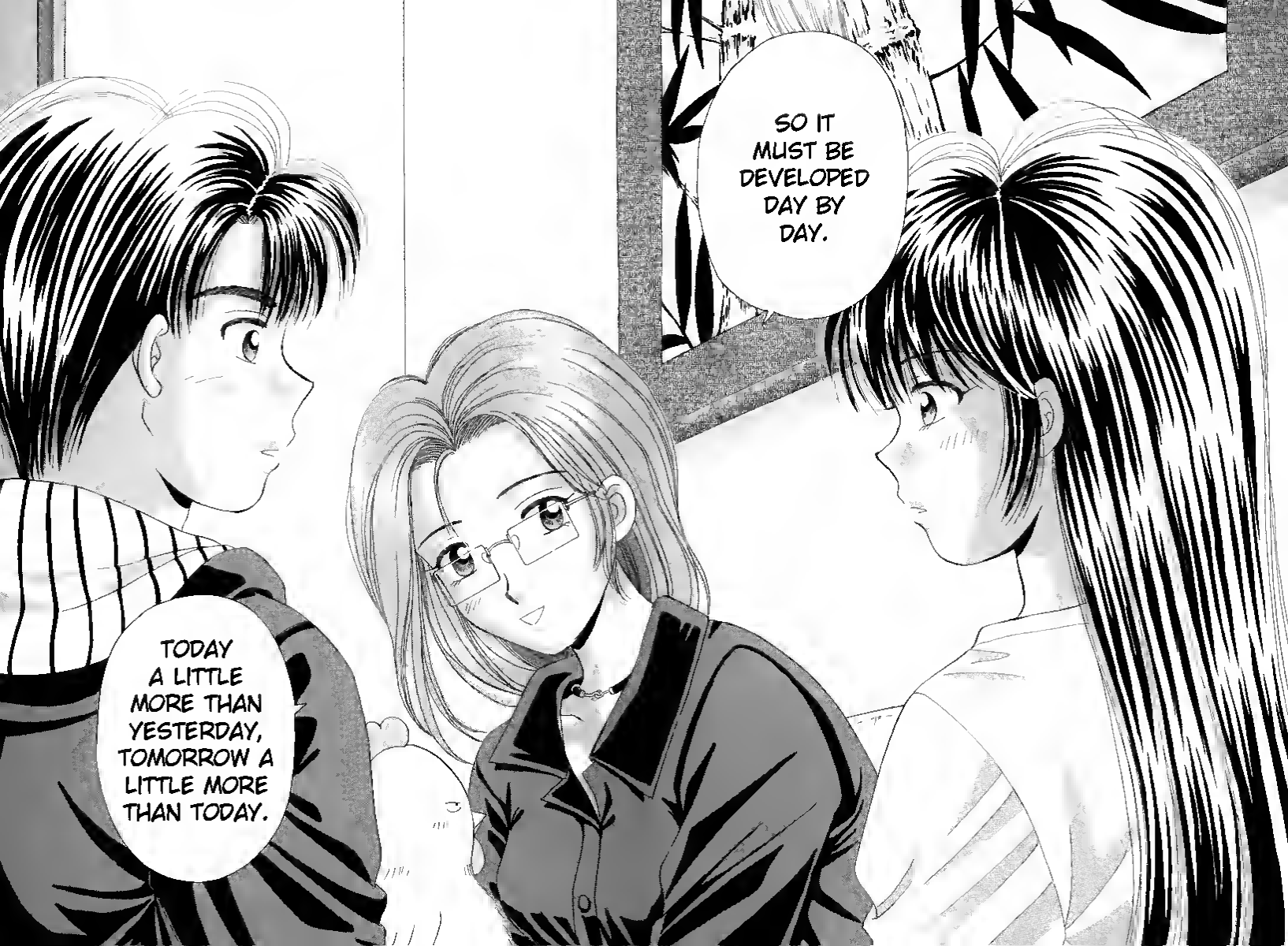
BUT ARE YOU OK JUST LEAVING IT LIKE THAT?
OF COURSE
AFTER ALL, YOU DO LOVE HIM, RIGHT?
IT'S JUST SO STRANGE.
DANJOU
I JUST CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT.
IF YOU BOTH LOVE EACH OTHER, THEN HOW CAN YOU BE APART?
YEAH, I DO FEEL THE SAME WAY.
IF THAT'S SO, THEN WHY...
DON'T YOU REGRET IT?

IF YOU'RE SEPARATED TOO LONG, YOUR FEELINGS MIGHT BEGIN TO LESSEN AS WELL.
YOU'LL BECOME UNEASY, AND LONELY, AND YOU'LL JUST WANT TO SEE EACH OTHER.

REGRET ..?


ALL I REALLY WANT IS TO BE WITH THE PERSON I TRULY LOVE FOREVER.

THERE IS NO MANUAL ...
FOR LOVE ...
WHATEVER CONCLUSIONS YOU MAY HAVE NOW ...
THERE IS NO SIMPLE ANSWER TO LOVE.


SO IT MUST BE DEVELOPED DAY BY DAY.
TODAY A LITTLE MORE THAN YESTERDAY, TOMORROW A LITTLE MORE THAN TODAY.

DON'T YOU THINK SO?
IT MUST BE DEVELOPED DAY BY DAY ...
IT SEEMS THAT YOU TWO ARE GETTING ALONG NOW FAR BETTER THAN WHEN YOU FIRST MET BECAUSE YOU ARE STARTING TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER.
AM I NOT RIGHT?
WH.. WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT... GETTING USED TO ME...
BAWK ...
THAT'S NOT SO, I'M JUST GETTING USED TO HIM
SENSEI!

HEH
TIME REALLY DOES FLY.
YOU'VE GOT TO LIVE LIFE TO ITS FULLEST SO YOU DON'T END UP REGRETTING IT IN THE END.
YOUR 3 YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL GO SO QUICKLY...
BUT IT'S OVER IN A FLASH.
WHEN YOU'RE YOUNG IT FEELS LIKE YOU HAVE ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD.

ポチャン
IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE NOW SINCE MAKI AND I HAVE MET.
ME AND MOGAMI
YEAH
WE'VE GOT TO LIVE LIFE TO IT'S FULLEST... THAT WAS QUITE A DEEP CONVERSATION WE HAD THERE
YOU TWO REALLY HAVE HIT IT OFF WELL, HAVEN'T YOU?
I WONDER WHAT MOGAMI THINKS?
CLEARLY, WE HAVE BEEN HANGING OUT TOGETHER QUITE A BIT.

AH ...
WELL, I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW.
WAIT A MINUTE, I'LL WALK WITH YOU
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'D BE EVEN MORE DANGEROUS?
YOU'RE COLD!
BAWK
BAWK
REALLY THAT GIRL!
SEE YA!
IT'S SOMETHING YOU'VE GOT TO DEVELOP DAY BY DAY.
BUT DANJOU AND I ARE SO DIFFERENT
WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING AT!
BAWK
THOUGH REALLY WE'RE

YOUR 3 YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL GO SO QUICKLY...
WILL HE BE ABLE TO REMEMBER THESE HIGH SCHOOL YEARS?
DANJOU ...
OR ANYTHING FROM NAMI ISLAND?

CLUCK
CLUCK
SIP
ALL RIGHT!
EVERYBODY, COME QUICKLY.
STIR STIR

Check 40 : Grassy Plains And A Star-light Sky, A Different Person And A Bewildered Self

MUNCH MUNCH
THERE'S NOTHING LIKE THESE TRAIN-STATION LUNCHES.
WE'RE HEADING TO NAGANO.
CAN I GET SOME TEA, YAYOI?
SURE.
WE'LL BE THERE 2 NIGHTS AND 3 DAYS FOR THE FALL FESTIVAL
ISN'T THIS GREAT THAT WE WERE ALL ABLE TO GO?
OUR GROUP INCLUDES KAYA AND ...
IT'S A TOTALLY GREAT FESTIVAL
M MME TOO ...
BRO-THER
ME AND MY SISTER YAYOI.
GLOMP
BAWK!

AND HER.
DON'T STUFF YOURSELF LIKE THAT!
REALLY!
OH YEAH, AND BY GRANDMA LIME'S REQUEST, WE'LL BE VISITING MOGAMI'S CHILDHOOD HOME.
BAWK ?
BUT IS IT REALLY OK FOR YAYOI AND I TO TAG ALONG? I DON'T WANT TO IMPOSE.
YEAH! ABSOLUTELY!
GRANDMA LIME SURE IS FULL OF ENERGY. IT'LL BE FUN TO SEE HER!
IT REALLY DOESN'T MATTER TO ME ANYWAY.
I SEE... MY BAD, MOGAMI...
GRANDMA HERSELF INVITED YOU, ISN'T THAT ENOUGH TO CONVINCE YOU IT'S FINE?

BAWK
WE'RE HERE, WE'RE HERE!
入口
BRAKE
HEEEEY!
THIS PLACE IS REALLY BEAUTIFUL!
BAWK
THE AIR HERE SMELLS SO FRESH!
Sumichrast said problems with ov high interest ra sharp run-up in pa
HI GRAA-MAAA!
IT'S GRAND-MA!
HUH?
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR COMING ALL THE WAY OUT HERE TO SEE ME!
RUN RUN
sel subsidiaries plunge in public which fell to an a vestments it now

GRANDMA!
GRANDMA LIME!
IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN YAMATO! ♡
BAWK ★
ひしっ
WOOSH
HOW'VE YOU BEEN?
EH?
BAWK
IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU TOO!
I COULDN'T STAY AWAY, I JUST HAD TO HAVE MORE OF YOUR ONIGIRI!
OH, COME NOW, YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE ME CRY!
THIS IS MY LITTLE SISTER YAYOI.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU
BOW
OH, SO YOU'RE YAYOI... YOU'RE JUST SO CUUUTE!
YOU'RE PROBABLY ALL EXHAUSTED, WHY DON'T YOU COME ON HOME AND HAVE SOME TEA?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH

TN: ONIGIRI - COOKED RICE OFTEN SEASONED AND PRESSED IN THE SHAPE OF A TRIANGLE

HEY, GRANDMA...
WHAT ABOUT US?
OH SORRY, SORRY. OF COURSE IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU TOO!
AHAHA
REALLY ?
SO HOW'S GRANDPA AND THE OTHERS BEEN?
WELL, RIGHT NOW HE'S AT THE ONSEN WITH THE KIDS.
OH, REALLY? ARE YOU OK WITH BEING LEFT BEHIND?
IT WAS TIME TO WASH THE OGRE'S LAIR, SO I CALLED IN THE TROOPS TO DO IT FOR ME
OH GRAND-MA... THAT'S JUST LIKE YOU!
HO HO!
WELL, YOU MUST ALL BE TIRED FROM YOUR LONG TRIP,
TAKE A BATH AND RELAX... WHY DON'T YOU GIRLS GO FIRST?
OKAAAAAY!

THIS BATH IS HUGE, IT'S FEELS LIKE AN ONSEN.
YEAH, IT WAS SO MUCH FUN TAKING BATHS IN HERE WHEN I WAS LITTLE.
IT WAS MADE ESPECIALLY LARGE SINCE GRANDMA LOVES HER BATHS SO MUCH
IT'S SO NICE, I FEEL I COULD JUST SIT IN HERE FOREVER.
IT REALLY IS NICE. I CAN FEEL THE FATIGUE MELTING AWAY.
YEAH.

SIP
SIP
WHILE YOU'RE WAITING, MAYBE YOU'D ENJOY LOOKING THROUGH THESE.
HM? WHAT'S THIS?
シーン
THEY'RE STILL NOT DONE, HUH...
SAWK
OH!
ALBUM
AN ALBUM.
ALBUM

IT'S MOGAMI WHEN SHE WAS LITTLE.

EHHH ...

ISN'T SHE DARLING? I REALLY TREASURE THESE.

AND HERE'S HER MIDDLE-SCHOOL ENTRANCE CELEBERATION

入学式

OH LOOK, THIS IS FROM SHI-CHIGOSAN!

TN SHICHIGOSAN - LITERALLY "7 5 3" A JAPANESE HOLIDAY CELEBRATING GIRLS OF AGES 3 AND 7, AND BOYS OF 3 AND 5

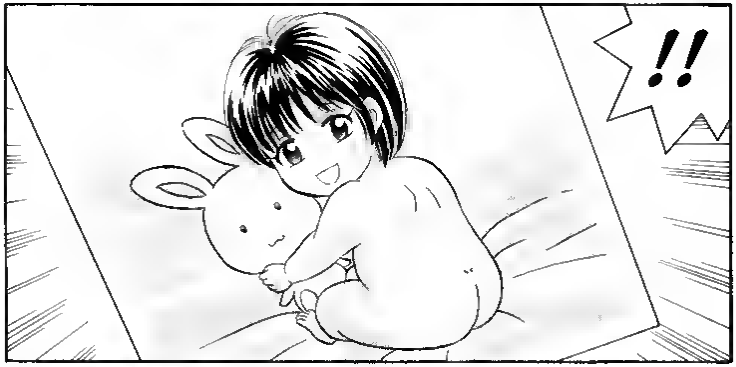
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN MOGAMI WHEN SHE WAS A CHILD.

AND THIS IS ..

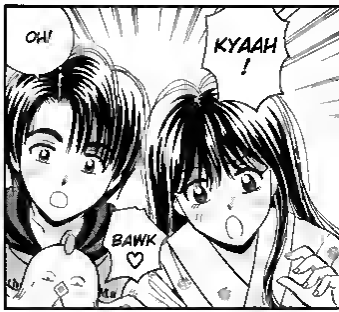
ALBUM

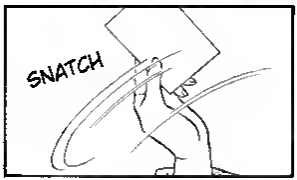
THIS IS PRETTY CUTE.
HEH
THERE'S JUST SO MUCH I DON'T KNOW ABOUT HER.
HEY
I WAS JUST LOOKING THROUGH YOUR OLD ALBUM
BAWK ♡
EH?
NOW WAIT JUST A MINUTE!
ぼん
わか
SORRY WE TOOK SO LONG.
AHHH THAT WAS RE-FRESHING
THAT IS A FANTASTIC BATH.

FLUTTER
OH... OY!
GIVE THAT HERE!

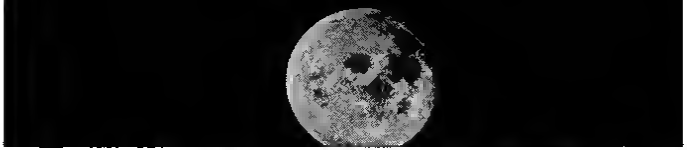

!!

JUST WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT, YOU PER-VERT?

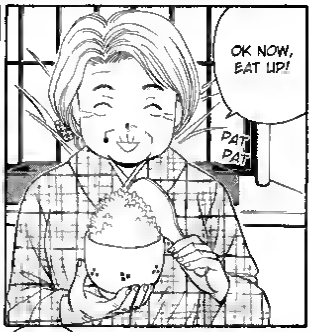

OH!
KYAAH!
BAWK ♡

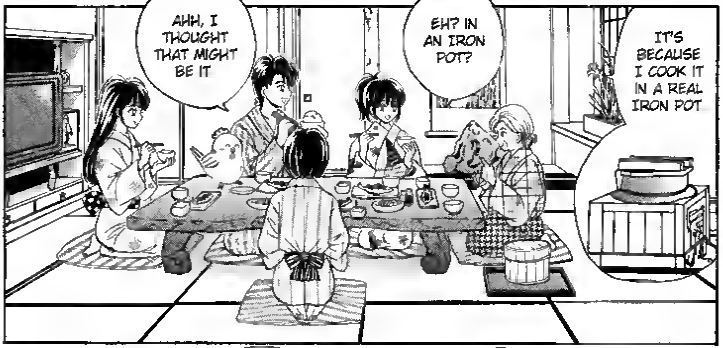

SNATCH

HUMPH
THAT'S NOT WHY I'M UPSET!
THERE'S NOTHING TO GET UPSET ABOUT, YOU WERE JUST A BABY IN THAT PHOTO.
BAWK...
We have!
OH, I'D LIKE TO SEE YOUR ALBUM TOO, MAKI.
AH, THAT'S FINE IF YOU'D LIKE TO SEE IT YAYOI.
HERE.
ALBUM
WHA?
NOW WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME SEEING IT!
THAT'S DISCRIMINATION!
BAWK...
IT'S JUST NOT FOR YOU TO SEE!
NYAAH
WHAT? WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE ALL OF A SUDDEN?
BAWK...
EH?
GRAND-MA!
BAWK
HO HO
OH, NOW DON'T BE EMBAR-RASED!



MMM... JUST AS I THOUGHT, GRANDMA'S RICE IS THE BEST!
LET'S EAT!
かっ かっ
BAWK!


OK NOW, EAT UP!
PAT PAT


AHH, I THOUGHT THAT MIGHT BE IT
EH? IN AN IRON POT?
IT'S BECAUSE I COOK IT IN A REAL IRON POT

WELL NOW, TRY SOME OF THIS TOO.

NNG!
BROTHER SLOW DOWN A BIT!
CHOMP CHOMP

GRASS-HOPPERS!?
BAWK!?
AH REALLY?
BAWK...
BUT... BUT IT'S AN INSECT
THEY ARE LOCUSTS
AND IT'S ACTUALLY VERY NU-TRITIOUS
IT'S ACTUALLY A VERY COMMON SNACK AROUND HERE.
IT'S REALLY GOOD
MUNCH
YOU TOO, KAYA-CHAN?
IT'S PRETTY GOOD, YAMATO-SAN.
MUNCH
SHE ATE IT!
AH!
BAWK!

HERE, JUST TRY IT.
NOW NOW, DOES IT SCARE YOU?
THAT'S REALLY NOT IT
DOKI
DOKI
BA-DUMP
UM
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
CHOMP
CHOMP
CHOMP

HO HO!
IF THAT'S SO, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME MORE?
UH... NO, THAT'S REALLY OK.
WHAM
I CAN EAT THESE, GRANDMA!
IT'S GOOD!
IT'S NICE, IT'S NICE
EH?
HO HO
YOU REALLY GET ALONG WELL, JUST LIKE A COUPLE OF NEWLYWEDS
MOGAMI, DON'T EAT TOO MUCH OR YOU'LL GET THE SH*TS
IDIOT!! WE'RE RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF EATING
UGH... BROTHER!!
BAWK !
GRANDMA! JUST WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY!
UH, YOU GOT IT WRONG!
BAWK !
YOU CAN STOP RIGHT THERE
I THINK THE LOCUSTS ARE CUTER THAN THIS NUT.
IT'S NUTRI-TIOUS

MY BAD, MY BAD.
YOU'RE LATE, BROTHER.
COC-A-DOODLE-DOO.
LOOK, LOOK! IT'S A GIANT DOUBLE-POTATO!
ズボッ!!
*SFX POP!
COME AND HELP OUT.
IS IT TOO EARLY FOR YOU?
ERGH!
ブチッ!
*SFX SNAP
HAWK
TUG TUG
ALLRIGHT! I'LL GIVE IT A GO.

THERE'S ACTUALLY A BIT OF A TRICK TO PULLING THOSE UP.
EH?
HUH? IT BROKE OFF. WHY'D IT COME OFF LIKE THAT?
YOU'VE GOT TO CAREFULLY LOOSEN THE DIRT AROUND IT WITHOUT DAMAGING IT.
SHOVEL
AND WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T TRY TO FORCE IT OUT.
IT'S BECAUSE THE STEM RUNS PRETTY DEEP.
A... HH.
OK, NOW GIVE IT A TUG.
BA-DUMP

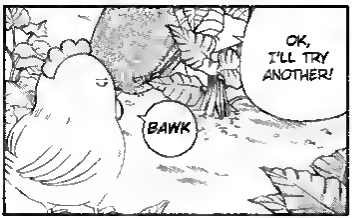
UNH... OH...
C'MON, PULL A LITTLE HARDER!

BEING... BEING THIS CLOSE TO HER...

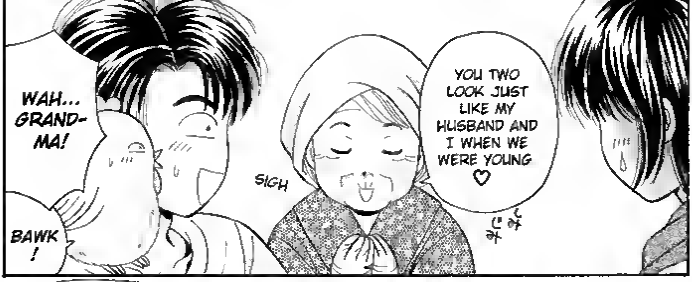
スポッ
*SFX: YANK

WOW, IT'S A BIG ONE.
I'M IM-PRESSED!
YOU GOT IT!

GOOD LUCK!


BAWK
OK, I'LL TRY ANOTHER!

YUP.
BAWK
WOW, YOU'VE PICKED QUITE A FEW THERE
HEY, YOU HAVE A LITTLE DIRT ON YOUR FACE
HUH?
YUP
GRANDMA'S SWEET POTATOES ARE FANTASTIC!
BAWK!
HA HA HA! YOU'RE JUST GETTING DIRTIER YOU LOOK LIKE A TANUKI!
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE HAD THIS MUCH FUN WITH MOGAMI
WIPE
OH DEAR
TN: TANUKI - TANUKI RACCOON
SOMETIMES CALLED A RACCOON-DOG
HO HO!
COULD IT BE BECAUSE OF THIS PEACEFUL COUNTRYSIDE AND CLEAR BLUE SKY?
OHHH WHERE IS IT?
BAWK ♡
IT'S ALL OVER!


WAH... GRAND-MA!
BAWK!
SIGH
YOU TWO LOOK JUST LIKE MY HUSBAND AND I WHEN WE WERE YOUNG ♡

ALL RIGHT!
WELL, LET'S PREPARE THEM, AND THEN GET TO THAT FESTIVAL!
MY, YOU'VE DUG UP QUITE A FEW POTATOES!

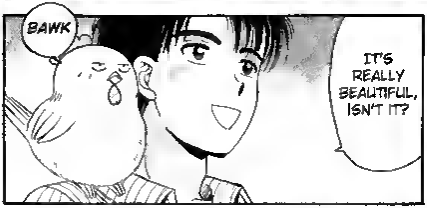
BAWK ♬
YEAH, I LOVE THAT FEELING.
RIGHT, SUMIRE?
IT'S NOT ALL THAT GLAMOROUS OR ANYTHING, BUT THERE'S AN OLD CHARM THAT MAKES THIS A GREAT FESTIVAL.

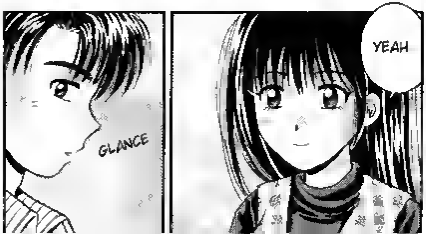
IT'S DELICIOUS.
YEAH, I'LL HAVE SOME.
HEY, IF YOU DON'T EAT, YOU'LL EVENTUALLY PASS OUT.
BAWK
DEEELICIOUS!
THE FRIED OCTOPUS IS GREAT AT THESE FESTIVALS.
YEAH, ME TOO! ♥
HEY BROTHER, I WANNA TRY THE FRIED NOODLES AND COTTON CANDY TOO. ♡
. . . .
WE'RE DEPENDING ON YOU, BIG-BRO! (^^)
BAWK
...
WHAT'S THIS... WHAT'S WITH THAT LOOK, KAYA-CHAN?
OH MAN
EH?
I'M GOING TO GO UP THE MOUNTAIN PATH FOR A BIT, OK?

WELL, IT'S NOT THAT THERE'S REALLY ANYTHING UP THERE
HUNH.
WHAT'S UP THERE?
IT'S THE CASH YOU'RE AFTER, HA HA!
AND GRANDMA'S COMING TOO, BRING YOUR PURSE, PLEASE ♡
WE'RE GOING TO WANDER AROUND THE CONCESSION STANDS
WOULD YOU TWO LIKE TO COME ALONG?
UH... SURE.
BAWK ?
EH?
WELL, I'LL GO IF THAT'S OK.

WOW, THIS TORII IS REALLY INCREDIBLE!
BAWK!
I HEARD THEY BUILT IT ENTIRELY FROM EVERYONES' OFFERINGS.
PIECE BY PIECE, THEY REALLY PUT THEIR SOULS INTO IT.

TN: TORII - THE GATEWAY TO A SHINTO SHRINE

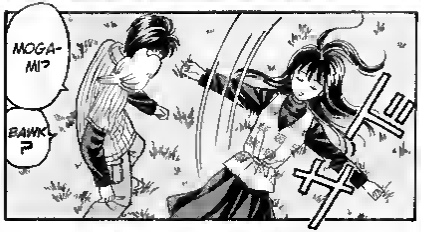




BAWK ?
UH NOTHING
I WAS JUST WONDERING WHY YOU WANTED TO WALK UP THE MOUNTAIN
WHAT?

AH
LOOK, THE SUMMIT'S JUST A LITTLE FURTHER
EH?
YOU'LL KNOW WHEN WE GET THERE

IT'S INCRE-DIBLE.
THE SKY IS FULL OF STARS!


MOGA-MI?
BAWK-?

ISN'T IT?
THIS IS WHERE I'D ALWAYS COME TO UNWIND

I LOVE WATCHING THE STARS LIKE THIS
LYING HERE JUST FEELS SO GOOD

WOW. IT'S JUST LIKE A PLANETARIUM. ☆
BAWK
THEN I'LL TRY TOO.
BAWK ?
EH? WHAT IS?
IT'S STRANGE, ISN'T IT?
HEH HEH
WHAT !?
AS MANY STARS ARE OUT THERE, WE'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO VISIT A SINGLE ONE OF THEM
YOU KNOW, I...
YOU KNOW, IT WAS JUST A THOUGHT
OF COURSE, ISN'T IT OBVIOUS

WHEN I WAS A KID I WONDERED JUST HOW MANY STARS THERE WERE, SO I TRIED TO COUNT THEM.
WERE YOU ABLE TO KEEP COUNT?
BAWK ?
NO... I'D ALWAYS FALL ASLEEP WHILE I WAS COUNTING.

AHH...
AND LAY ME DOWN ON THE FUTON WHERE I'D SLEEP.
THEN GRANDMA WOULD FIND ME, AND CARRY ME HOME ON HER SHOULDERS
YEAH... MOM AND DAD WERE SO BUSY, THEY'D OFTEN DROP ME OFF WITH GRANDMA.
AH... I'M SORRY, I'M PROBABLY BORING YOU WITH THIS STORY.
SO THEN I'D COME HERE BY MYSELF AND GAZE AT THE STARS.
N... NO, NOT AT ALL.
SO YOU CAME HERE PRETTY OFTEN, THEN?
BAWK
SO EVEN SOMEONE LIKE HER HAD LONELY THOUGHTS
.....

EVEN THOUGH SHE CAN BE SO NICE, HER STUBBORN SIDE PROBABLY CAME FROM THAT.
AH. YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT. THAT IS MARS.
THAT THAT SHINING STAR... IT'S RED. THAT'S MARS, ISN'T IT?
AH. WHAT IS IT?
BAWK
SO THIS IS THE CLOSEST MARS HAS BEEN IN 60,000 YEARS.
YEAH.

WHY IS IT THAT YOU AND I ARE LAYING DOWN HERE GAZING AT THE STARS?
EH?
STRANGE, HUH
BAWK ?
. . . . . .
60,000 YEARS, HUH
AND IT'S AT THIS MOMENT, OUT OF OUR ENTIRE LIVES, THAT WE'RE TOGETHER UP HERE...

BUT ...
EARTH AND MARS WILL DRIFT APART AGAIN.
I FEEL THIS IS THE CLOSEST MOGAMI AND I HAVE EVER BEEN TOO.
JUST LIKE MARS AND EARTH ARE THE CLOSEST THEY'VE EVER BEEN...

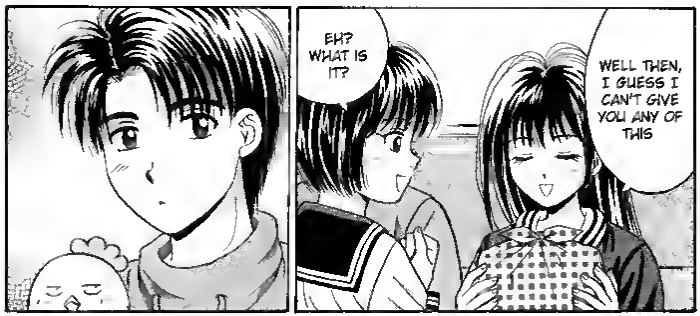
WHAT WILL HAPPEN BETWEEN US FROM HERE ON...
MOGAMI AND I
EH?
MOGAMI ...
*SFX. CLICK

SMILE
I GOT A TERRIFIC SHOT. ♡
GRANDMA!
BAWK !
WE WEREN'T . .
Y... YEAH WE...
BAWK ...
OH SO SHY, YOU TWO. ♡ HO HO
NOW GRANDMA, DON'T MISUNDERSTAND.
I REMEMBER IT SO WELL. IT'S JUST LIKE WHEN YOUR GRANDFATHER AND I USED TO COME HERE.

HEY SIS, I ATE SO MUCH, DOES IT LOOK LIKE I GAINED WEIGHT?

GRANDMA WAS JUST SO FULL OF LIFE, WASN'T SHE?
YUP. SHE'S STILL YOUNG. THAT WAS A LOT OF FUN!

AH... YOU OF ALL PEOPLE ARE WORRIED ABOUT THAT?

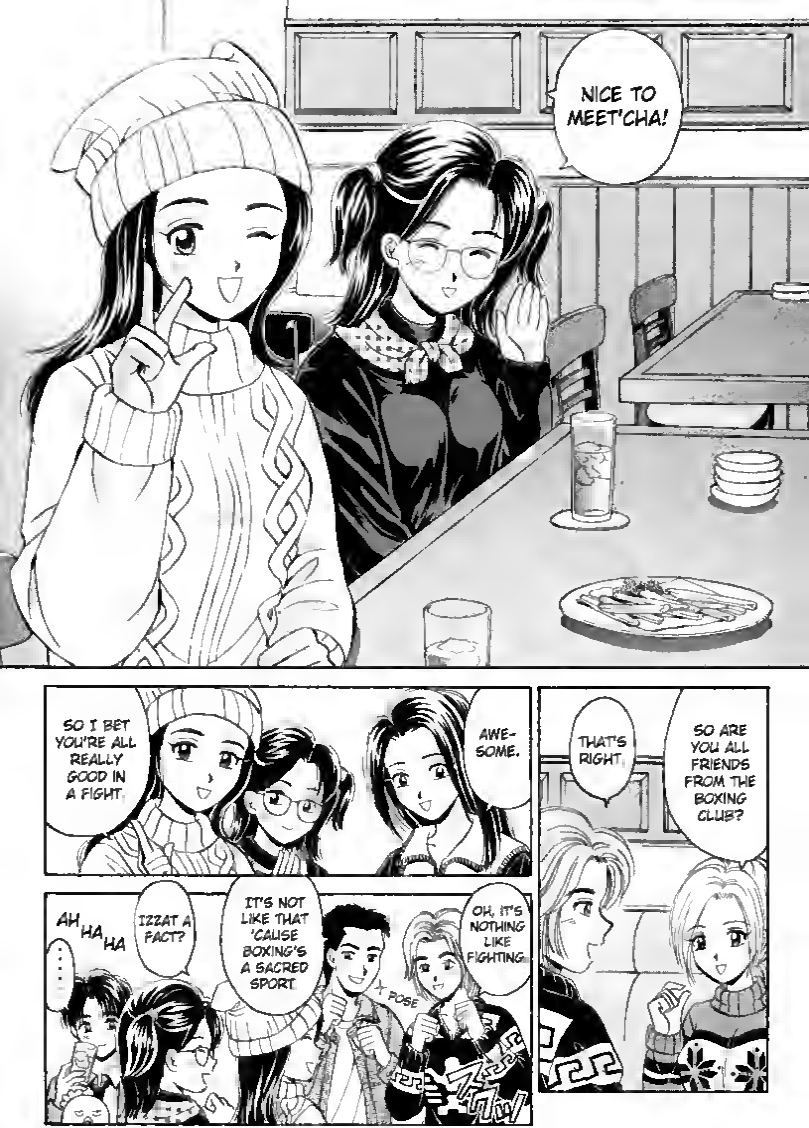

EH? WHAT IS IT?
WELL THEN, I GUESS I CAN'T GIVE YOU ANY OF THIS

GRANDMA MADE SOME ONIGIRI FOR US TO EAT ON OR TRIP BACK.
SHALL WE HAVE SOME?
YA...Y, I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS!
GRANDMA'S ONIGIRI IS THE BEST!
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME, DANJOU?
A... AAH THANK YOU.
IT MADE GRANDMA SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU.
WE'LL HAVE TO DO THIS TOGETHER AGAIN SOME OTHER TIME.
YEAH ♡ RIGHT, BRO-THER?
AH... YEAH.
AGAIN... TOGETHER

AND THERE... WE GO!
MY PREDICTION CAME TRUE.
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.

Check 41 : Let's Go On A Double Blind Date

NICE TO MEET YOU!
OVER HERE, OVER HERE!
WE'RE TOTALLY IN YOUR DEBT, MAN.
WHISPER WHISPER
WAY TO GO, ISE!
WOW DUDE, THEY'RE TOTALLY HOT!
すずん
I'M YANAKI.
H... HEY!
NICE TO MEET YOU TOO. I'M ISE!
I'M THE ONLY ONE STILL IN MY SCHOOL UNIFORM.
EVERY-ONE'S JUST WEARING THEIR STREET CLOTHES
NAME'S CHIYO-DA!
I'M TSU-BAKI


NICE TO MEET'CHA!
SO I BET YOU'RE ALL REALLY GOOD IN A FIGHT.
AWE-SOME.
THAT'S RIGHT.
SO ARE YOU ALL FRIENDS FROM THE BOXING CLUB?
AH HA HA
IZZAT A FACT?
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT 'CAUSE BOXING'S A SACRED SPORT.
OH, IT'S NOTHING LIKE FIGHTING.
X POSE

TODAY WE'RE HAVING A MIXER TO CELEBRATE ISE'S NEW PART-TIME JOB.
EVEN THOUGH IT'S HIS FIRST JOB, HE'S REALLY GOING ALL-OUT.
SORRY EVERY-BODY
HUH?
LOOKS LIKE I'M A LITTLE LATE. ☆
CHIHAYA, YOU'RE TOTALLY LATE.
WHAT WERE YOU DOING?
WE STARTED WITHOUT YOU.
NO WAY...
WHOAAAAA
SO CUTE! ♡
AM I DREAMIN'?

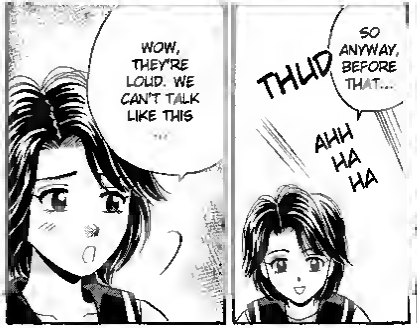
COME OVER HERE AND HAVE A SEAT.
OVER HERE, OVER HERE.
THANKS.
EH.. SHE SEEMS REALLY YOUNG.
BAWK ♡
CAN I GET YOU SOMETHING TO DRINK? ANYTHING YOU LIKE!
PAMPER
OR SOME PASTA?
PAMPER
AH... THANK YOU.
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME FRIES, CHIHAYA-CHAN?
GLANCE
'CUTE' HAS THE ADVAN-TAGE.
AHHH... LOOKS LIKE ALL THE GUYS THINK CHIHAYA'S THEIR TYPE, HUH..
EH HEH HEH
DROOL

EH? NO WAY
REALLY ?
AH HA HA
I'VE GOT ALL THE GUYS' FULL ATTENTION ♡
TE HEE
LOOKS LIKE TODAY'S ANOTHER VICTORY FOR ME!
BAWK ♡
COME OVER HERE, SUMIRE
TAP TAP
OH, YOU CAN'T EAT HIM
BAWK..
THIS HERE'S SUMIRE, MY EMERGENCY FOOD SUPPLY
LOOKS PRETTY TASTY, HUH?
AWWWW
BAWK ♡
TAP TAP
OHH HE'S SO CUUUTE! ♡
HE LOOKS LIKE A PLUSH DOLL!
NO WAY! IT LOOKS LIKE I DIDN'T EVEN MANAGE TO GET HIS ATTENTION!
AH, SUMIRE SAYS HE'S THIS GOOD
BAWK!
HOW GOOD, HUH...
THAT'S TOO CUTE FOR WOORDS! ♡
FWAP
SO HOW GOOD ARE YOU?
YEAH
DO YOU BOX TOO, DANJOU-KUN?

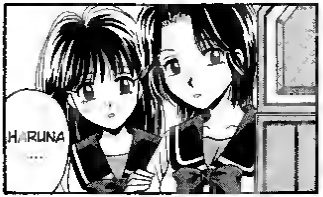
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! HE'S EVEN STILL IN HIS SCHOOL UNIFORM!
NO WAAAAY. WHAT'S UP WITH THAT GUY! IT'S LIKE HE'S NOT AT ALL INTERESTED IN ME...
IS IT OK IF I SIT HERE?
UH SURE
PLOP!
BAWK ♡
OK WATCH THIS! I'LL JUST TURN ON THE CHARM!
HMPH
OK THEN, IT'S TIME TO CHANGE SEATS!
WHAAA!
I'M CHIHAYA MATSUMOTO. NICE TO MEET YOU!
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
ME? DANJOU YAMATO.
AND THIS IS SUMIRE.
BAWK
CRAAAP!
LUCKY YAMATO!

BAWK
YOUR FIRST MIXER? THAT'S UNUSUAL!
WELL, 'TILL JUST HALF A YEAR AGO, I LIVED ON NAMI-ISLAND . AND WE DIDN'T REALLY HAVE TOO MANY OF THESE THERE
AND THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN TO THIS KIND OF PARTY, SO I REALLY DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO WEAR
WELL, I DIDN'T REALLY HAVE TIME TO GET HOME AND CHANGE
SO WHY ARE YOU THE ONLY ONE IN YOUR UNI-FORM?
EH? I WAS JUST THERE THIS SUMMER TOO!
BAWK
EH... NAMI ISLAND !?
THAT'S A GREAT PLACE. I WENT THERE JUST THIS PAST SUMMER TO GO SWIMMING
GRAB
WOW. WHAT A COINCI-DENCE!
WE MAY HAVE EVEN PASSED RIGHT BY EACH OTHER WHILE WE WERE THERE! ♡
AH... YEAH.

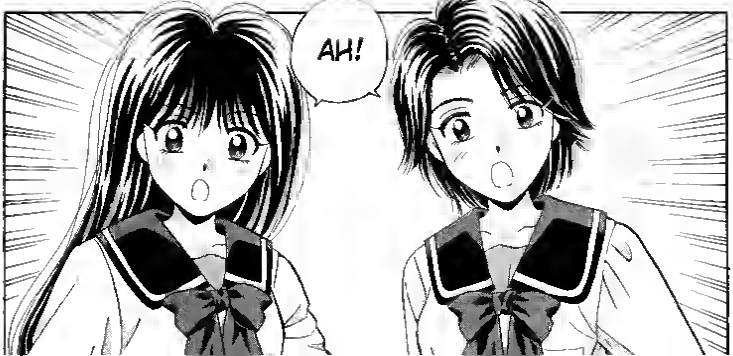
WHAT IS IT? DO I HAVE SOMETHING ON MY FACE?
TE HEE
JUST LIKE I THOUGHT PIECE OF CAKE!
STARE
TODAY'S SPECIAL. PIZZAS
HE WASN'T LOOKING AT ME!?
EH!?
EXCUSE ME, COULD WE GET ONE OF THOSE PIZZAS, PLEASE!
BAWK!
EH!?
IM-POSSI-BLE!
THIS IS THE FIRST I'VE BEEN SO DISGRACED!
WHAT KIND OF GUY IS THIS? A CUTE GIRL (ME) IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF HIM, WHAT'S HE THINKING!?
IT SAYS TODAY THEY'RE HAVING A SPECIAL ON PIZZAS!
BAWK!
NOW I'M REALLY FIRED UP!
WELL, IF THIS IS WHAT IT'S GOING TO TAKE, I WON'T LET GO. I'VE GOT MY PRIDE TO UPHOLD AFTER ALL!


WOW, THEY'RE LOUD. WE CAN'T TALK LIKE THIS ...
THUD
SO ANYWAY, BEFORE THAT...
AHH HA HA

ISN'T IT, THOUGH?
THE COFFEE IS GREAT HERE.


HARUNA ...

HARUNA, NOW HOLD ON ...
THEY'RE NOT THE ONLY CUSTOMERS HERE AFTER ALL. I'M GONNA GO HAVE A WORD WITH THEM!
STAND


AH!

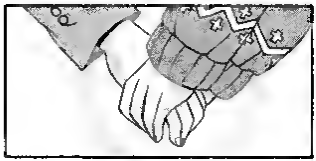
AND THEY'RE HAVING A MIXER!?
NO WAY... IT'S ALL OF THEM!
WHAT'S WITH THAT PACE?
HE'S GONE SOFT IN THE HEAD. HOW SHAMEFUL!
SINCE WHEN HAVE THEY BEEN HAVING MIXERS AROUND HERE?
WHO KNOWS?
AH, THAT GIRL...
EH? YOU KNOW ONE OF THOSE GIRLS?
YEAH, THAT GIRL NEXT TO DANJOU.
CHIHAYA MATSUMOTO'S HER NAME.
WE WERE IN THE SAME CLASS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, AND WE LIVED IN THE SAME NEIGHBORHOOD, SO I KNOW HER WELL.
DANJOU MIGHT BE IN TROUBLE.
EH!?

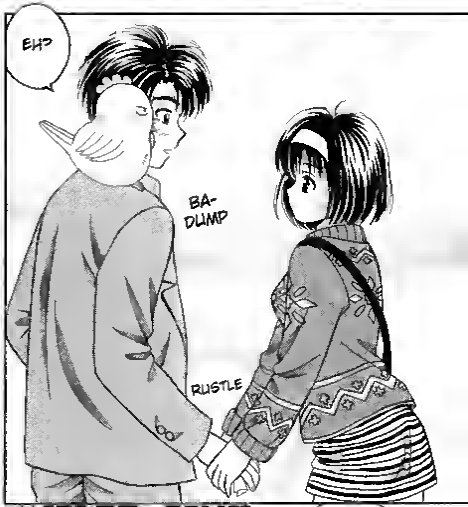
SAY AHHHH. ♡
EH?
OH... OK.
YOU'RE SHYYY!
NAH ...
NO WAY, CHIHAYA'S ACTING A LITTLE DIFFERENT TODAY, DON'T YOU THINK?
YEAH, IT'S UNUSUAL FOR HER TO GET SO AGRESSIVE
SO DANJOU, WHEN'S YOUR NEXT MATCH?
EH? DO YOU HAVE ANY INTEREST IN BOXING?
BAWK
YEAH I'D LIKE JUST ONCE TO WATCH A REAL MATCH!
REALLY? WELL THEN, COME AND CHEER ME ON.
BAWK
YEAH, YOU BET I'LL BE THERE!
HE HE
BOXING HUH, I'D LIKE TO TRY THAT MYSELF.
YOU KNOW, RECENTLY A LOT MORE GIRLS HAVE BEEN DOING IT AS PART OF DIET AND EXERCISE PROGRAMS
EH, SO IS THAT WHY YOU WANT TO DO IT?
AH, THAT'S NOT REALLY WHAT I MEANT...
AH HA HA

LET'S GO TO KARAOKE!
I WANT TO SING A DUET! ♫
WELL, LET'S REALLY GET THIS PARTY GOING. ON TO THE AFTER-PARTY PARTY!
BUT WE WERE JUST GETTING STARTED!
EH?
BAWK
SORRY GUYS, I'M GONNA HAVE TO PASS THIS TIME.
SEE-YA!
SO PARTY EXTRA-HARD TO MAKE UP FOR MY SHARE!
YEAH, I'M SORRY I'VE JUST GOT SOME BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO
EVEN THOUGH I USED MY BEST APPROACH, HE'S JUST WALKING AWAY LIKE HE DOESN'T CARE!?
NO WAY! HE REALLY IS HEADING HOME! IS IT BECAUSE HE'S TOTALLY NOT INTERESTED IN ME!?

YEAH?
WAIT A MINUTE, DAIGOJI-KUN!
TAP TAP

TIME TO MAKE MY MOVE!
CLENCH




EH?
BA-DUMP
RUSTLE

……

LET'S GET TOGETHER AGAIN SOME OTHER TIME, OK?

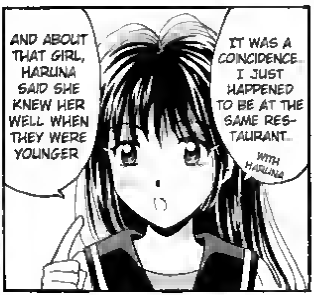
WELL, SEE YOU LATER!
Y... YEAH, LATER.
UHH... OK.
BAWK
... I WONDER WHAT WAS ON HER MIND. THAT SEEMED A LITTLE ODD.
WHAT !?
Meet me tomorrow at 4:00 PM in front of the station. I'll be waiting!
Chihaya♡
RUSTLE
HUH.. WHAT'S THIS?
BAWK ?
BUT THEN, I GUESS I REALLY DON'T HAVE A REASON TO TURN HER DOWN
WHAT TO DO?
BAWK ?
WHAT'S THIS..?
SHE WROTE IT RIGHT BEFORE GRABBING MY HAND. MAN, I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO TURN HER DOWN.
WHAT! SUMIRE, YOU GOT SOMETHIN' TO SAY?
BAWK BAWK BAWK BAWK !

I SAW YOU. ♡

WHAAA. HOW DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT! YOU'VE GOT THE DEVIL'S EARS!
AT YESTERDAY'S LITTLE MIXER. ALONG WITH CHIHAYA MATSUMOTO AND COMPANY.

HUH?

WHAT? YOU'RE FINE WITH THIS? TO SAY THAT
EHHH! SHE KNEW THAT LITTLE CUTIE?
EH?


AND ABOUT THAT GIRL, HARUNA SAID SHE KNEW HER WELL WHEN THEY WERE YOUNGER
IT WAS A COINCIDENCE. I JUST HAPPENED TO BE AT THE SAME RESTAURANT... WITH HARUNA

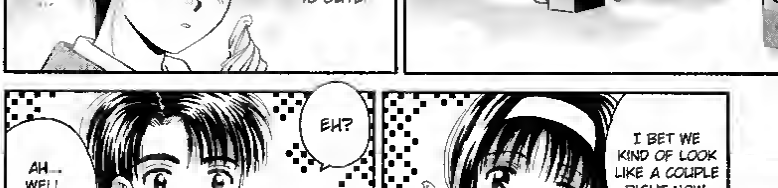
IT'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, I WAS THE ONE ASKED OUT, AND WE'RE ONLY GOING TO TALK
DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE BEING UNFAIR TO AOI-CHAN?
AOI ASKED ME TO WATCH OUT FOR YOU AND TO TRY TO KEEP YOU OUT OF TROUBLE.
OH, IT'S JUST LIKE I THOUGHT SHE'S GOT HER EYES SET ON YOU!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ...
HARUNA TOLD ME! THAT GIRL IS ONLY DOING IT TO BE THE CENTER OF ATTENTION!
THAT GIRL, HUH? BUT SHE SEEMS LIKE SUCH A NICE GAL.
IT SEEMS YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN BRAIN-WASHED.
HARUNA TOLD ME THAT WHEN THAT GIRL REALLY WANTS SOMEONE, SHE ALWAYS GETS HIM

I CAN SEE WHY. SHE'S CUTE AND FUN, EVERYTHING A GUY LIKES.
HA HA
SERIOUSLY! I'M REALLY WORRIED ABOUT YOU HERE!
WHOA WHOA
N..NO! I'M WORRIED FOR AOI'S BEHALF!
IT'S NOT LIKE I HAVE ANY REASON TO BE WORRIED MYSELF!
NOW WHY WOULD YOU BE WORRIED FOR MY SAKE?
WHA !?
HEY NOW, NO REASON TO GET ALL WORKED UP.
HEEH HEEH
THANK GOODNESS! I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NOT SHOW UP WHAT WITH THE WAY I SNUCK THAT NOTE INTO YOUR HAND.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

WE DIDN'T REALLY GET A GOOD CHANCE TO TALK YESTERDAY, SO I WANTED ANOTHER CHANCE TO GET TO KNOW YOU BETTER
NO, NOT AT ALL.
HA HA
PROBABLY BECAUSE WE'RE JUST SLANG-TALKING, UNREFINED COUNTRY FOLK HUH?
WELL, WHY ME?
NOBODY THAT I TALKED TO REALLY SEEMED MY TYPE.
I'M ACTUALLY REALLY INTERESTED IN YOU. ♡
EH?
WHAT DOES SHE MEAN BY THAT?
BA-DUMP
AH!
I WANT SOME ICE-CREAM!

YUM! ♡
LICK LICK

NOW THAT I GET A GOOD LOOK AT HER, SHE REALLY IS CUTE.
AND SHE SEEMS TO LIKE ME TOO...


EH?
AH... WELL, MAYBE WE DO.
I BET WE KIND OF LOOK LIKE A COUPLE RIGHT NOW, HUH?

SAY, DANJOU-KUN...
EH?
I'VE GOT A GOOD FEELING ABOUT THIS. I BET I CAN GET HIM TO COME AROUND TODAY.
HE HE

AH!
LICK
BA-DUMP
THANK YOU. ♡

DUDE, THERE'S A TOTALLY HOT CHICK RIGHT OVER THERE
REALLY?
THE GUYS ARE REALLY CHECKING HER OUT. JUST LIKE WHEN I'M WITH MOGAMI.
THAT PROBABLY EXPLAINS WHY I'M JUST A BIT UNCOMFORTABLE.
BUT WHY WOULD A GIRL LIKE THIS BE INTERESTED IN ME?
AND ARE WE ACTUALLY ON A... DATE?
HMM? WHAT IS IT?
AHH... NOTHING
I DID IT! HE'S TOTALLY IN TO ME NOW.
NOW THAT I'M BACK IN FORM, I CAN DROP HIM LATER TODAY.
♡

YURA'S SOO COOL. SHE REALLY GIVES IT HER ALL.
TODAY'S HOT IDOLS
YURA (16)
EH!?
SO, DANJOU-KUN...
BiDi
AND WHAT'S MORE, ON A DATE!?
DANJOU-KUN AND THAT GIRL...
BUT LAST I TALKED TO HIM HE REALLY SEEM-ALL INTERESTED IN HER!!
WHAT'S HE UP TO?

BUT THIS IS THE RIGHT ROAD TO TAKE ME HOME, ANYWAY!
I REALLY DON'T HAVE A REASON TO FOLLOW THEM!
DON'T YOU ALREADY HAVE A BOY-FRIEND?
THANKS FOR COMING OUT TODAY, IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE HAD SUCH FUN ON A DATE
OH, WAIT A MINUTE
OH, REALLY?
EH... NO, NOT AT ALL.
BUT IT'S WONDERFUL THAT I'M ABLE TO RELAX AROUND YOU, DANJOU. IT'S REALLY BEEN FUN TODAY, HUH?
AHHH!
I DID ASK A GUY OUT ONCE THOUGH
BUT IT WAS KIND OF A TENSE RELATIONSHIP AND NOTHING CAME OF IT

SO WHAT DO YOU THINK?
IF SHE SAYS WHAT I THINK SHE'S GOING TO...
EH?
WELL I...
BA-DUMP
ALL RIGHT! NOW I'LL REALLY LAY IT ON!
DANJOU-KUN...
TUG
EH?

TELL ME ...
IS SHE REALLY !?
WHA !?
HOLD ON, WHAT'S WITH THAT GIRL!?
WH... WHAT SHOULD I DO!?
WH... WHY'D IT HAVE TO COME TO THIS!?
AM... AM I SUPPOSED TO KISS HER?

BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
UH... I...
WHAT'S THIS GUY DOING?
IF HE'S GOING TO TURN ME DOWN, HE BETTER JUST HURRY UP AND DO IT.
LARK
OH, NO...
IS IT REALLY JUST LIKE HARUNA SAID? IS SHE JUST SETTING HIM UP TO TRICK HIM?
WELL IF IT ISN'T CHIHAYA, WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING!
WHA?

WHA
YOU'RE JUST PLAYING HIM, BUT YOU ACT SO SERIOUS. WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT UP ALREADY?
GOT ANOTHER GUY, HUH?
EH? BUT
LET'S GO, DANJOU-KUN
WH.. WHAT'S GOING ON?
DON'T MISUNDER-STAND! I NEVER SAID ANYTHING LIKE THAT AT ALL!
HOLD ON! I THOUGHT YOU AND I WERE GOING OUT!
DANJOU-KUN, I...
THAT'S ENOUGH!
WHAT THE HELL!
YOU ASKED ME YOURSELF! YOU MADE ME FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU, THEN YOU JUST DUMP ME FOR SOME OTHER GUY!

IT'S NOT THAT WAY BETWEEN US.
IF YOU REALLY LOVE A GIRL, YOU HAVE TO SEE AND UNDERSTAND HER POINT OF VIEW.
WHA !?
HEY, CALM DOWN.
*SFX: SWISH
MORON, WHAT THE HELL DO YOU KNOW ANYWAY!
*SFX: GRRRR
YOU ASS!
*SFX: WOOSH
HEY WATCH IT! I SAID CUT IT OUT.
*SFX: SWISH SWISH

*SFX CATCH!
YOU'VE GOT TO BE STRAIGHT-UP IF YOU LIKE SOMEONE.
LOVE THAT ISN'T SINCERE DOESN'T LAST A HEARTBEAT.

WHEW
DAMMIT!
*SFX: DASH
WHO IS THIS MAN?
THERE'S NO ONE LIKE THAT THESE DAYS.
BUT WHY
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?
NO WAY ...
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
WHY WON'T MY HEART STOP POUNDING?
ARE YOU OK?
YOU LOOKED DAZED. WERE YOU SCARED?
TH .. THANK YOU.

I...
NO, I'M OK.
DANJOU-KUN COMPLETELY SHOOK ME TO MY CORE.
WELL, I SHOULD PROBABLY HEAD HOME
I'LL SEE YOU LATER.
EH!?
AH OK. SEE. YOU LATER!

GIGGLE
THAT DWEEB. ☆
LEAN
UNBELIEVABLE.
FOLLOWING HIM AROUND CAN REALLY WEAR A GAL OUT.
THE NEXT MORNING.
AH!
CHATTER
CHATTER
WHAT'S GOING ON OVER BY THE GATE?
YEAH, IT'S CROWDED.
CHATTER

AH!
DANJOU-KUN!
CHIHAYA-CHAN!?
IT SHE'S HERE!!
WHAT IS IT?
WELL, I WAS JUST HOPING TO MEET SOMEONE HERE.
FOR WHAT REASON?
WH... WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
SHE'S SOMEONE HE MET AT THE MIXER
EH!?
WHO IS SHE? DO YOU KNOW HER?

BECAUSE I WANTED TO SEE YOU DANJOU-KUN.
THAT'S THE REASON ♡
EH...
WHA ...
IT LOOKS LIKE MY FEELINGS HAVE BECOME REAL.
MY FEELINGS ABOUT YOU, DANJOU-KUN ♡
WHA !?

SMILE
SO PLEASE BE KIND. ♡
EH. EH. EEHHHHHHHH!?

Check 42 : Cleaning WARS

WELL, THE CLOSING CEREMONY IS NOW SAFELY OVER.
WE'RE ALMOST AT THE END OF THE YEAR.
IT PASSED BY SO FAST.
THERE WAS A LOT THAT HAPPENED THIS YEAR.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NEW YEAR'S EVE, MOGAMI? STAY UP AND WATCH THE SUNRISE?
NAW, I'LL PROBABLY GREET THE NEW YEAR EATING SOBA NOODLES AND WATCHING TV WITH THE FAMILY.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, DANJOU?
I'LL BE SPENDING NEW YEAR'S EVE CLEANING THE HOUSE
CLEANING?
YEAH AND BECAUSE IT'S ACTUALLY A TEMPLE, IT'S BIG AND IT'S GONNA BE PRETTY ROUGH.
OH.. BUT TAMANAMI DID SAY HE WAS GOING TO COME HELP OUT.
...WELL, DO YOU MIND IF I COME HELP AS WELL?
HMMM.

WELL, IT'S NICE OF YOU TO OFFER, BUT WE WON'T BE ABLE TO PAY YOU OR ANYTHING
YOU DOPE
BY WRAPPING UP THE YEAR, YOU LITERALLY INTEND TO WRAP STUFF UP?
EH? REALLY?
WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO DO THAT?
AH... OH I'M SORRY THEN, PLEASE COME
THE MORE THE MERRIER! AND WE'LL GET DONE WITH THE SWEEPING IN NO TIME
IDIOT! I WASN'T EXPECTING TO GET PAID! I JUST WANTED TO BE NICE!
THE 31ST NEW YEAR'S EVE
NOW THAT'S WHAT YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID FIRST SHEESH

MEOW?
郵便
POST
PHEW
IT'S COOOLD
PURRR
YOU SHOULDN'T BE SLEEPING OUT HERE. YOU SHOULD GO HOME TO YOUR FAMILY
THIS YEAR TOO... IS ALREADY OVER.
HE'S HELPED ME OUT QUITE A BIT IN THE PAST, SO I'LL DO MY BEST TO HELP HIM OUT HERE.
OH YEAH. I'VE SEEN DANJOU'S ROOM BEFORE, BUT I THINK THIS WILL BE MY FIRST TIME IN THE TEMPLE.
PHEW

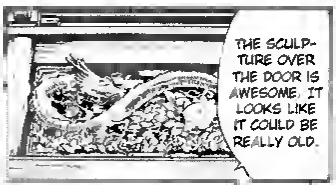
MAKIII! OVER HERE, OVER HERE!
AH GOOD MORNING, EVERY-ONE.
GOOD MOR-NING!
YO.
BAWK ♡
SORRY WE'RE STARTING SO EARLY
BAWK
NO PRO-BLEM.
I'VE GOT ALL THE ENERGY I NEED JUST TO HELP YOU OUT, YAMATO ♡
HUH !?
BAWK ?

CHIHAYA-CHAN!
GOOD MORNING!
WH... WHY ARE YOU HERE? SO YOU KNEW ABOUT THE TEMPLE?
BAWK?
WHA!?
WELL, YOU KNOW THE GIRLS AT SCHOOL... IT'S HARD TO KEEP ANYTHING A SECRET..
EH WHEN DID YOU TELL HER!?
TAMANAMI-KUN TOLD ME ABOUT IT.

WHAT'S WITH THAT GIRL, COMING OUT HERE TO VISIT?!
I'M REALLY EXCITED ABOUT HELPING YOU CLEAN THE TEMPLE ♡
AH? OH THANK YOU
BUT YOU KNOW, IT'S REALLY NOT ALL THAT EXCITING
IT'LL BE GREAT SPENDING NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH YOU. I'LL WORK MY HARDEST ♡
WELL, THAT'S GREAT.
AND OF COURSE HE'S TOTALLY PREDICTABLE POWERLESS AGAINST A CUTE GIRL
MAKI, DO YOU KNOW THIS GIRL, YA?
SHE'S THE GIRL HE MET AT THAT MIXER
SUZUYA-SAN...
FIRST IMPRESSIONS ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT, SO I'LL LEAVE A BIG ONE, YA!
AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M THE TOP CANDIDATE TO BE YAMATO'S GIRLFRIEND!
OK, OK, THIS WAY SUZUYA-SAN
GRAB
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?!
WE'VE JUST GOT TO HAVE A LITTLE CHAT.
DRAG DRAG DRAG
.....

WOW, THE WALKWAY IS LONG, HUH?
QUITE A BIT TO MOP, YA.

BUT PLEASE DO YOUR BEST.
WELL, EVERYONE, I KNOW THERE'S A LOT TO CLEAN.
OK.


THE SCULPTURE OVER THE DOOR IS AWESOME. IT LOOKS LIKE IT COULD BE REALLY OLD.

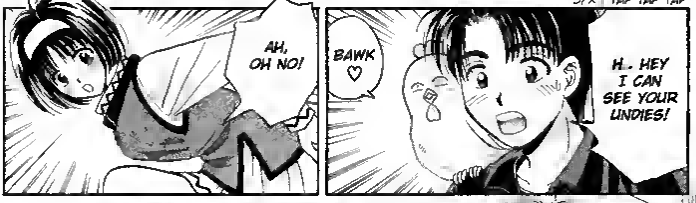
BAWK
AND TELL HER SHE CAN COME VISIT US ANYTIME
I'VE ALREADY WRITTEN HER A THANK-YOU LETTER, BUT THANK HER AGIAN FROM ME IN YOURS

YEAH THAT'LL MAKE HER HAPPY

OH YEAH, I GOT THAT PICTURE THAT GRANDMA UME TOOK OF US WHEN WE WERE VISITING HER
OH? REALLY? I GOT A COPY TOO!

HAWK ...
WELL, UH...
C'MON, LET'S GO CLEAN TOGETHER.
BLIDGE
WHERE SHOULD WE START CLEANING?
HEY HEY YAMATO
EASILY FORCED AS ALWAYS
H- HEY, DON'T PULL SO HARD!
C'MON C'MON
AND HERE I THOUGHT I'D COME OVER AND TRY TO BECOME BETTER FRIENDS WITH HIM.
DANJOU, YOU IDIOT!
TWIST

*SFX | TAP TAP TAP



AH.
YAMATO!
C'MON! WHERE DID YOU GO?
IT KINDA LOOKS LIKE FUN. I'D LIKE TO TRY.
MOGAMI-SAN, YOU'RE PASTING NEW PAPER ON THE SHOUJI? LOOKS TOUGH.
YEAH, JUST GOT A LITTLE MORE TO DO.
THINK YOU CAN? IT IS RATHER TOUGH, YOU KNOW.
IN SHOUJI - TRADITIONAL JAPANESE PAPER SLIDING DOOR
I REALLY WANT TO. JUST LEAVE IT TO ME
THERE'S ONLY ONE SHEET LEFT TO DO, THOUGH...
WELL, DO YOUR BEST, THEN. I'LL START WORKING ON THE NEXT ROOM.
OK.

BOY, I REALLY GOT INTO WORKING ON THAT SHOUJI.
YAMATO, WHERE ARE YOU?
SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE
.....
THEY'RE TOGETHER AGAIN...
BAWK P
HUH? CHIHAYA AND MOGAMI AREN'T HERE YET, HUH?
HEY EVERYBODY, CHOW'S ON THE TABLE, COME AND GET IT!
OKAAY!
I HEARD THEIR VOICES JUST A SECOND AGO, I'M SURE THEY'LL BE HERE SOON.
OH, OKAY THEN

WHAT IS IT? YOU WANTED TO TALK?
YEAH, WELL YOU SEE...
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU AND YAMATO ARE ALWAYS HANGING OUT TOGETHER.
AND IT'S LIKE THERE'S A SPECIAL AURA BETWEEN YOU TWO...
TH... THERE'S NOTHING LIKE THAT GOING ON.
WELL... WELL THEN.
FIDGET
HOW DO YOU REALLY FEEL ABOUT YAMATO?
DO YOU LOVE HIM?

YE - YEAH REALLY!
REALLY?
YOU MISUNDER -STAND!
N.. OF COURSE NOT!
GRAB
THANK GOOD- NESS
WHEW
EH?
EH?
WELL THEN CHEER ME ON!

WELL, I GUESS THERE'S NO CRIME IN THAT. SHE SEEMED REALLY DETERMINED.
NOW THAT I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT THAT ANYMORE, I'M SUDDENLY STARVING.
LET'S GO EAT.
HA HA HA HA BUT IT IS SUCH A SIMPLE THING!
YAYOI, THIS ONIGIRI IS REALLY GOOD.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I MADE LOTS, SO EAT UP.
AND I MUST SAY IT LOOKS BEAUTIFUL.
I SAW THE WORK YOU DID WITH THE SHOUJI SLIDING DOORS
EH?
MATSUMOTO-SAN, IS IT? I'M IMPRESSED BY YOUR SKILL.

EH? YOU REALLY THINK SO?
TODAY I'M THE ONE WHO DID IT!
OF COURSE
MUNCH
HA HA
INDEED WE HAD TO DO THE WHOLE THING OVER!
BOY, WHEN BROTHER TRIED DOING THAT LAST YEAR, WHAT A MESS THAT WAS!
OH YAMATO ♡
BAWK
TO HEAR MY DAD PRAISE YOU, CHIHAYA-CHAN, YOU'VE REALLY DONE WELL, HUH?
... WHATEVER. DO WHAT YOU LIKE.
MUNCH MUNCH
CHEER ME ON!

AH, LET ME POUR YOU SOME MORE TEA.
THANK YOU. HOW NICE.
OH, YOU'RE MAKING ME BLUSH.
NOW THAT'S THE SPIRIT I'D LIKE TO SEE IN A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT DAD...
HA HA.
SO VERY SHY!
WHAT'S WITH HIM? HE'S TOTALLY OBLIVIOUS.
YOU'RE A TOTAL IDIOT DANJOU!
SPILL

GLARE

*SFX WHAM WHAM

LET'S DO OUR BEST THIS AFTER-NOON TOO!
BAWK
RIGHT.

MOGAMI, CAN I HELP?
BAWK ?

UUGH
COUGH
COUGH

I'M FINE. I CAN DO IT MYSELF.
LET ME HELP!

I'M DOING JUST FINE, WHY DON'T YOU GO HELP CHIHAYA WITH SOMETHING?
WHAT

BAWK ...
YOU ARE?
SCRATCH

AH... WHAT AM I DOING...
MOGAMI?
HMM, WHERE DID SHE GO?
HMPF!
LIFT
EH?
STAGGER
IT'S HEAVY

BAWK
IT'S HEAVY. I'LL CARRY IT.
F... FINE THEN
YOU WERE STAG-GERING WITH IT
OK, THERE WE GO!
AH...
ARE YOU OK, YOU SEEM A LITTLE DIFFERENT TODAY?
IT'S JUST YOUR IMA-GINATION.

YAMATO ...
YAMATO, WHERE ARE YOU?
IT'S NOTHING.
I DON'T THINK SO EVEN JUST NOW.
SLIDE
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
HUH?
OH CRAP. IT'S CHIHAYA-CHAN!
HUH? NOT HERE.
I COULD'VE SWORN I JUST HEARD HIS VOICE.

YAMATO --
.....

NOW WHY'D YOU HAVE TO HIDE ALL OF A SUDDEN?
LOOK WHO'S TALKING, YOU'RE HIDING TOO
WELL, IT'S JUST THAT GIRL...

IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S GONE

TOSS
REALLY... IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE HE'S SO SHY

KA-KLACK

EH?
THE DOOR WON'T OPEN.
RATTLE RATTLE
HERE, LET ME TRY.
RATTLE RATTLE
HUH?
WHAT IS IT?
EHHHH? WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
SOME-BODY
IT'S NO GOOD. SOMETHING'S BLOCKING IT OUTSIDE
RATTLE RATTLE
LIKE SOMEONE LOCKED US IN HERE
WAIT!
!?

EH ...
W.. WELL I GUESS SO.
IF WE CALL FOR HELP NOW, CHIHAYA WILL FIND US
SO IF YOU DON'T MIND, LET'S JUST WAIT HERE FOR A BIT
YAAAWN
OH? IT LOOKS TO ME LIKE YOU'RE ENJOYING IT.
I MEAN, SHE REALLY IS YOUR TYPE, ISN'T SHE?
OY. I'M PRETTY EXHAUSTED.
CHIHAYA-CHAN'S REALLY COMING ON A LITTLE STRONG

EH?
I MEAN SHE'S CUTE, AND SHE REALLY TRIES HARD
HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
BAWK
.....
W WELL I GUESS, I DID THINK SHE WAS CUTE AND EVERY-THING
BUT I JUST DON'T KNOW
BAWK
I SAW CHIHAYA WORKING ON ONE OF THEM, BUT THERE WERE A BUNCH OF WRINKLES, SO I KNEW IT WAS SOMEONE ELSE WHO DID THE NICE ONES.
I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYONE ELSE WHO COULD HAVE DONE SUCH A GOOD JOB
ANYWAY, YOU WERE THE ONE WHO RE-GLUED THE SHOUJI TODAY, AREN'T YOU?
EH? WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THAT?

YEAH
NOD
JUST AS I THOUGHT.
BAWK ?
SO IT HAD TO BE YOU, RIGHT?
I'M SORRY GRANDPA DIDN'T GIVE CREDIT TO THE PERSON WHO REALLY DESERVES IT.
THANKS ...

WHERE ARE YOU, BROTHER?
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE HELPING US OUT HERE!
SLIDE
BAWK
SUMIRE-CHAN?
BAWK
HUH?
BAWK
AH!

WHAT ON EARTH WERE YOU TWO DOING?
WE LOOKED ALL OVER FOR YOU TWO. EVERYONE ELSE HAS ALREADY LEFT.
WAAAH! IT'S ALREADY DARK OUTSIDE!
NO GOOD! I'VE GOT TO GET HOME!
I'M REALLY SORRY WE MADE YOU WORRY.
BOW
UH... WELL, YOU SEE ...
AND OF COURSE I CARELESSLY FELL ASLEEP.
I REALLY APPRE- BUT CIATE IT ...
IF YOU DON'T MIND, WHY DON'T YOU STAY A LITTLE LONGER?
YEAH, WHY NOT, MAKI-SAN?
BAWK
C'MON, EAT WITH US MOGAMI.
IT'S SO MUCH FUN WITH MORE PEOPLE
WE'RE ALL STARVING
WE'RE JUST IN TIME TO MAKE SOME SOBA NOODLES TO HELP RING IN THE NEW YEAR.
BAWK P
OY OY, ALL BY YOUR-SELF?
AH, YOU'RE PROBABLY EXHAUSTED, YAYOI-CHAN.
I'LL MAKE THE SOBA.
WELL, I GUESS YOU TALKED ME INTO IT.

HUH ....
BAWK !?
WELL, YOU'VE HAD QUITE ENOUGH REST ALREADY
EH, I AM!?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU'RE HELPING, OF COURSE
DON'T SAY SILLY THINGS LIKE THAT.
YOU'RE A TOUGH SLAVE-DRIVER
YOU'VE GOT TO KNEAD IT A LITTLE HARDER
BAWK
WHUMP
WH... WHAT IS IT?
AH, IT'S NOTHING
I'M MUCH MORE AT EASE NOW THAT SHE'S BACK TO NORMAL
SHE'S BACK TO THE USUAL MOGAMI
AH HA HA
COC-A-DOODLE-DOO!
HEY, GET BACK TO WORK!

DONNNG
YEAH, THIS YEAR IS JUST ABOUT OVER.
BAWK
THE NEW YEAR'S BELL IS RINGING, HUH?
THE STARS ARE REALLY BEAUTIFUL TONIGHT.
EH?
YAYOI-CHAN AND YOUR DAD WERE KIND TO LET ME HANG OUT TONIGHT. BE SURE TO THANK THEM FOR ME.
BAWK
WE SHOULD BE THANKING YOU FOR HELPING OUT SO MUCH WITH THE CLEANING.

HU?
THANK YOU...
UM, YOU SEE ...
THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN MEANING TO SAY.
THAT IS...
BAWK!
WE CERTAINLY HAVE BEEN THROUGH A LOT, BUT IT'S BEEN ONE REALLY FUN YEAR.
WHAT IS IT?
OHH!
BAWK?
BUT I WAS JUST ABOUT TO TELL HIM
AH ...
UMMM ...

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
AND MAY THIS YEAR BE JUST AS GOOD!
YEAH!
BAWK ♡

YEAH
BAWK
IT'S NO SUPRISE, BUT THE STARS AREN'T QUITE LIKE THEY WERE AT GRANDMA UME'S HOUSE, HUH?
HEY NOW, THAT'S MY LINE.
BAWK
WHO'D'A THOUGHT WE'D BE STARING AT THE STARS TOGETHER AGAIN SO SOON?
BAWK
COUNTING DOWN THE FINAL SECONDS OF 2004, HUH?
WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT, WE REALLY HAVE BEEN THROUGH A LOT.
YEAH
OH.
DONNNG
WE'RE DOWN TO THE FINAL MINUTE BEFORE RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR.

HE'S ALWAYS BEEN BY MY SIDE...
WE CRIED.
WE LAUGHED.
THE TIME WE WERE VOTED BEST COUPLE
THAT TIME I SUDDENLY THREW HIM TO THE GROUND.

HE HE
5 4
5 4
1
2
3
DONNNG
TO EVERYONE OUT THERE, I WISH YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!
CHEER!
BAWK
...
IT'S A BRAND NEW YEAR! LET'S MAKE SOME NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS!
RIGHT?

Check 43 : The World's Tackiest Fellow

RIING
RIING
BAWK!
RING
IS IT HERE!?
IT SOUNDED LIKE IT WAS COMING FROM HERE
HELP ME FIND IT, SUMIRE!
SHUFFLE
WHERE IS IT!? MY CELL PHONE! WHERE DID IT GO?
BAWK!
SHUFFLE
RING
BAWK!
YOU FOUND IT SUMIRE!
BUT WHY IN THE WORLD WAS IT IN THERE
RING
BAWK!
HELLO, DANJOU SPEAKING!

AH, THERE YOU ARE
I THOUGH YOU WEREN'T THERE AGAIN, YAMATO.
AH AOI
I'M SORRY, I WAS HAVING TROUBLE FINDING MY CELL-PHONE
BUT ANYWAY, WHAT'S UP?
BAWK ♡
WELL... YAMATO, SINCE YOU DIDN'T COME BACK FOR THE NEW YEAR, I WANTED TO AT LEAST HEAR YOUR VOICE
HAA... BUT WE DO GET TO TALK ON THE PHONE PRETTY OFTEN
SORRY, I'VE JUST BEEN REALLY BUSY
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM!
I HEARD IT JUST SNOWED IN TOKYO. YOU DIDN'T CATCH A COLD, DID YOU?
I'M OK. I'M TOUGHER THAN THE AVERAGE GUY!
I SEE
HEY YAMATO
DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT WEE-KEND?
EH? NOTHING THAT I KNOW OF

WHAT'S THIS ALL OF A SUDDEN?
HAWK P
I'D LIKE TO COME VISIT.
WELL YOU SEE...
SO THEN, YOU DON'T REMEMBER?
NO, WHAT'S GOING ON?
YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING GOING ON?
IT'S YOUR ...?
C'MON MY ... YOU KNOW...
YAMATO, YOU IDIOT!!
?
RIIIING

NO WONDER SHE WAS UPSET! YOU FORGOT HER BIRTHDAY!
EHHH?
BIRTH-DAY?
YOU DON'T UNDERS-TAND GIRLS FEELINGS AT ALL!
YOU DUMMY, A BIRTHDAY IS A REALLY IMPORTANT EVENT TO A GIRL.
SHE WAS REALLY UPSET.
SCRATCH
ALL THAT JUST CAUSE IT WAS HER BIRTHDAY?
BUT IF THAT'S THE CASE, WHAT SHOULD I DO?
OH MAN. THAT'S PROBABLY WHY SHE WOULDN'T PICK UP THE PHONE.
SHE MIGHT NOT EVEN WANT TO TALK TO YOU AFTER THAT.
NATU-RALLY
EH, REALLY!?

WELL HOW ABOUT GETTING HER A NICE PRESENT?
IT IS HER BIRTHDAY AFTER ALL.
A PRESENT?
A PRESENT, HUH
BUT WHAT SHOULD I GET HER?
YEAH, SINCE SHE'S UPSET, YOU'VE GOT TO GET HER SOMETHING TO LET HER KNOW YOU REALLY DO CARE.
THAT'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD DECIDE FOR YOURSELF.
WELL
WOULD YOU AT LEAST COME WITH ME WHILE I'M SHOPPING?
EH? WHY DO YOU WANT ME TO
I DON'T KNOW WHAT A GIRL WOULD LIKE, I HAVE NO CONFIDENCE IN MY GIFT-SENSE.
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HELP ME! PLEASE!!
OH BROTHER

Zerlian.
THE NEXT DAY.
THERE'S A LOT OF SHOPS AROUND HERE, SO WE SHOULD HAVE A LOT OF OPTIONS.
UH... YEAH...
GLANCE
HUHHH
GLANCE
FROM TIME TO TIME
BAWK P
SO DO YOU COME SHOPPING HERE A LOT THEN?
EVEN THOUGH I'M HELPING YOU PICK SOMETHING OUT FOR AOI, WHEN YOU GIVE IT TO HER TELL HER YOU PICKED IT OUT YOURSELF.
OH. OK.
HEY, STOP LOOKING AROUND LIKE THAT!
PEOPLE WILL THINK YOU'RE STRANGE
R... RIGHT!
BAWK !
STAND

Y... YOU DOPE! THAT'S TOTALLY OFF LIMITS! OY!
LIWAHH! 30,000 YEN!?
TN: AROUND U.S. $250
OH, THIS LOOKS PRETTY NICE!
THANK GOODNESS HA HA!
WHOA, THAT STARTLED ME!
DUMMY THERE ARE MUCH MORE REASONABLE THINGS HERE
FWAA
SO THEN, HOW ABOUT THIS MUFFLER?
THIS MIGHT BE BEST
SOMETHING LIKE THIS.

SINCE AOI WEARS CLOTHES LIKE THIS
I THINK THIS SWEATER MIGHT MATCH HER STYLE REALLY WELL
BA-DUMP
CAN YOU PICTURE HER WEARING THIS?
AH... YEAH...
IT'S NOT CLEAR TO YOU AT ALL, IS IT
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?
AAH ..

BLUSH
EH ...
THAT LOOKS REALLY GOOD ON YOU.
SHEESH!
OH... YEAH RIGHT. HA HA
Y.. YOU IDIOT!
WE'RE NOT OUT HERE SHOPPING FOR ME!
BAWK!
THUMP
AH RIGHT.
SHOULD WE TRY LOOKING FOR SOMETHING ELSE?

AH... HEY NOW SUMIRE!
GEEZ, THOSE TWO...
BAWK!
ARE YOU PICKING OUT A GIFT?
AH, YEAH
BAWK..
POP
DON'T PLAY AROUND WITH THE STORE'S MERCHANDISE
HEHE, IT'S OK...
Y... YOU'RE MISTAKEN, WE'RE NOT...
NO, REALLY, WE'RE NOT!
EH!?
IT'S SO NICE GETTING GIFTS FROM YOUR BOYFRIEND, ISN'T IT?

EH...?
LET'S GET GOING!
!?
SORRY SORRY SUMIRE WAS HAVING A LITTLE TOO MUCH FUN BACK THERE.
SQWK
HEY... WAIT, WHAT'S GOING ON!?
OH, NOTHING AT ALL!
YEAH.
THIS CAKE IS GREAT.

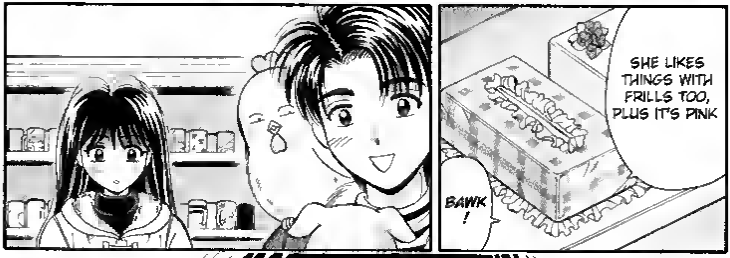
YUP, THAT MUST BE IT.
MUNCH
THE ONLY PEOPLE OUT SHOPPING DURING THE HOLIDAYS SEEM TO BE COUPLES.
I SUPPOSE PANJOU AND I MUST SEEM LIKE A COUPLE SO THEN, HUH?
HEY, ARE YOU OK?
COUGH COUGH
HAWK ?
GULP
YOU KNOW, IT'S TOTALLY LIKE THAT CAKE I HAD AT YOUR PLACE A WHILE AGO
JUST CALM DOWN AND EAT.
YOU'RE EMBARRASING ME
IMPOSSIBLE?
HIM AN I, A COUPLE ...
HEHE
HEH
KOFF

SINCE IT IS YOUR FAVORITE, WOULD YOU LIKE TO FINISH MY PIECE?
THAT IS IF YOU WANT
IT'S GOOD CAKE, DON'T LET ANY GO TO WASTE
SIGH
BAWK ?
WHAT IS IT, MOGAMI? AREN'T YOU GONNA FINISH THAT?
BAWK ,
LUCKY US!
HUH, SUNIKE?
ABSOLUTELY. THANK YOU.
IT'S OK, GO AHEAD.
YOU DON'T WANT IT?
WELL
AFTER SEEING SO MUCH, I THINK I'M JUST GETTING MORE CONFUSED.
SO ANYWAY, WHAT ABOUT THE GIFT?
DID YOU FIND ANYTHING INTERESTING?
YOU KNOW AOI BETTER THAN I DO TRY TO THINK OF WHAT SHE LIKES
DON'T TRY TO PICK SOMETHING CONCRETE RIGHT AWAY
BAWK
PICKING OUT A GOOD GIFT CAN REALLY BE TOUGH, HUH?

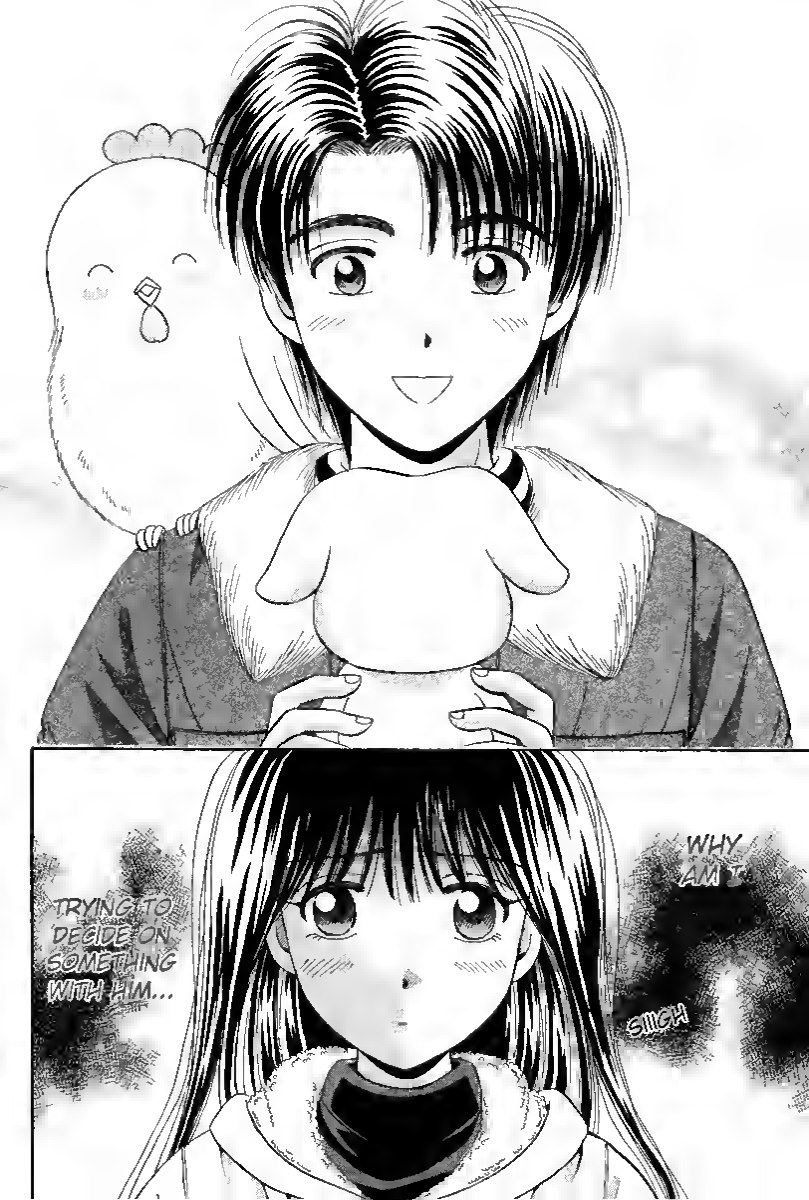
HMMMM
...
LAST TIME I WAS IN HER ROOM, I SAW QUITE A FEW OF THOSE.
WELL, LET'S SEE... I THINK SHE LIKES THE THINGS MOST GIRLS DO, LIKE TRINKETS AND STUFFED-ANIMALS...
LIKE HER FAVORITE COLOR, OR SOMETHING SHE'S MENTIONED THAT SHE WANTED.
BAWK!
AH, I SEEM TO REMEMBER ALL SORTS OF CUTE LITTLE THINGS SCATTERED ABOUT.
IN AOI'S ROOM?
.....

Aki
WELL, IF YOU'VE THOUGHT OF SOMETHING, HURRY UP AND TELL ME.
AH.
HM... WHICH DO YOU THINK IS CUTER?
WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE THIS MAY TAKE SOME TIME
SO WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS, SUMIRE?
BAWK!
THIS MUG IS REALLY CUTE!

AND IT'D GO WITH HER KID-LIKE BED
THIS LOOKS LIKE THE KIND OF STUFFED-ANIMAL AOI LIKES.
BAWK
PUWBA

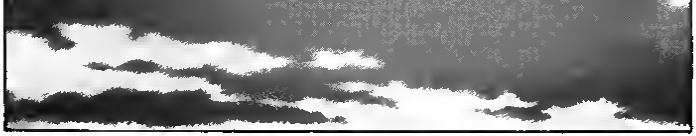

SHE LIKES THINGS WITH FRILLS TOO, PLUS IT'S PINK
BAWK!

HE JUST CAN'T...
MAKE UP HIS MIND


TRYING TO DECIDE ON SOMETHING WITH HIM...
WHY AM I...
SIIGH

AND IT'S SOMETHING THAT CAN BE USED ANYTIME.
ALL RIGHT, THAT'S WHAT I'LL GET HER!
OH... A MUG MIGHT BE JUST THE THING!
BAWK
MOGAMI, WHICH DO YOU THINK IS THE CUTEST?
BOY, THERE ARE A LOT OF THEM!
AH... I THINK . .
EH?
POINT

TH... THIS ONE? REALLY?
HAWK ?
I THINK IT'S CUTE, HUH?
DOOOOONG
THIS ONE'S THE BEST!
YE... YEAH YOU MAY NOT UNDERSTAND, BUT TH.. THIS IS REALLY CUTE
ALL RIGHT, THEN IT'S THIS ONE!
AOI WOULD AGREE
EXCUSE ME!
WHAAAT !?
WHAT !?

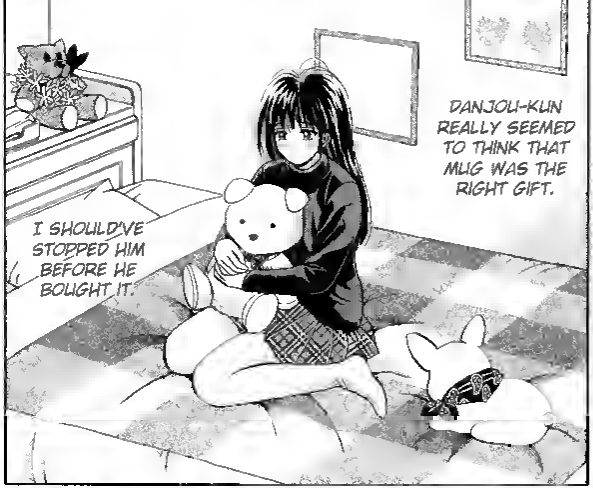


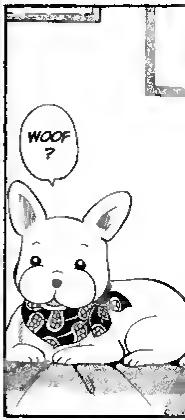
AOI WILL SURELY LOVE IT!
THANKS TO YOU, I GOT THE PERFECT GIFT.
BAWK

BAWK
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP TODAY.
HUH?

SEE YOU LATER!
BAWK
I'M GONNA CALL HER UP AND TELL HER I GOT HER A LITTLE SOMETHING AS SOON AS I GET HOME!
AH... YEAH

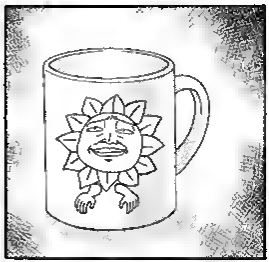
I CAN'T JUST
WHAT SHOULD I DO...


I SHOULD'VE STOPPED HIM BEFORE HE BOUGHT IT.
DANJOU-KUN REALLY SEEMED TO THINK THAT MUG WAS THE RIGHT GIFT.


WOOF ?

HE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER THAN TO GO FOR SUCH A TACKY MUG... ANY NORMAL PERSON WOULD'VE FIGURED THAT OUT, RIGHT?
BUT IT WAS HIS OWN FAULT AFTER ALL....

DANJOU, YOU IDIOT!
... JEEZ!



WHY DID I HAVE TO SUGGEST THAT MUG?
WHY... DID I...
THEN HE...
AND THEN HE ...
SQUEEZE
WOOF

DANJOU
DING-DONG
WITH ALL THE TROUBLE SHE'S HAD ON HER BIRTHDAY, I FEEL SORRY FOR AOI-CHAN.
OF COURSE I NEED TO APOLOGIZE AND HELP HIM FIND A BETTER GIFT.
KA KLACK
HELLO!

MAKI-SAN!
LONG TIME NO SEE!
EH ...?
A.. AOI-CHAN!
BUT WAIT.. WHAT'S AOI-CHAN DOING HERE!?
SAWK ♡
OH HEY WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE AT THIS TIME?
AH ...
AH ...
DID HE ALREADY GIVE HER THAT MUG !?
WHAT, DID YOU FORGET ABOUT MY BIRTHDAY AGAIN ALREADY?
SAWK
YEAH, I WAS SUPRISED. YOU CAME OVER IN QUITE A HURRY.

EH!?
RUSTLE
LOOK, LOOK, MOGAMI-SAN!
SEE?
WOOSH

IT'S MY BIRTHDAY PRESENT FROM DANJOU!
WHAT'S GOING ON!?
IT'S THE MUFFLER... THE VERY FIRST THING I PICKED OUT
AND WANTED TO THANK YOUR DAD AND YAYOI AGAIN FOR THE NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY
UHHH
WELL, I WAS JUST IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD
BAWK?
SO ANYWAY, WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO COME VISIT?
BAWK
WELL, DAD ISN'T HERE RIGHT NOW, BUT HE SHOULD BE BACK PRETTY SOON IF YOU'D LIKE TO WAIT FOR HIM
AH...
OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE SO THERE'S ALL KINDS OF THINGS I'D LOVE TO CATCH UP ON WITH YOU!
AH OH, IT'S OK I'LL JUST COME BACK ANOTHER DAY I'D PROBABLY SPEND TOO MUCH TIME CHATTING WITH YAYOI-CHAN ANYWAY

YEAH, LATER, HUH?
YOU REALLY CAN'T STAY?
OF COURSE BUT UNFORTUNATELY I CAN'T STAY TODAY.
SAY HI TO YOUR DAD AND YAYOI FOR ME.
HOLD ON LET ME WALK WITH YOU A BIT!
EAWK!
DANJOU-KUN.
MOGAMI.
HAAAAH

BOY, IT'S COLD!
I THINK THIS JUST MIGHT BE THE COLDEST DAY OF THE YEAR.
BAWK!
HMMM...
WHY'D HE END UP GETTING HER THE MUFFLER?
AND WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT MUG?
AH, YEAH. HERE YOU GO.
HE?
EH? WHAT IS IT?
RUSTLE
AH!
IT'S FOR YOU, MOGAMI.

DOOOOONG
TH.. THE MUG..!?
BAWK ?
YOU SAID YOU THOUGHT IT WAS CUTE, RIGHT?
B . BUT WHY?
BAWK
SO AFTER YOU LEFT I DECIDED TO GO BACK AND GET THAT MUFFLER.
AHH ...
AND GIVE YOU THIS MUG TO THANK YOU FOR HELPING ME

BAWK
?
UH... HEY WHAT IS IT?
MOGAMI ...?
HEY?

AND YOU ALWAYS WILL BE...
YOU REALLY ARE THE DULLEST GUY AROUND.
HUH?
山内クリニック

THANK YOU!
NYAH
AH, HOLD ON!
I'LL SEE YOU LATER
I'LL WALK YOU HOME
IT'S OK, IT'S NOT TOO FAR
C'MON, MOGAMI!!
BAWK!

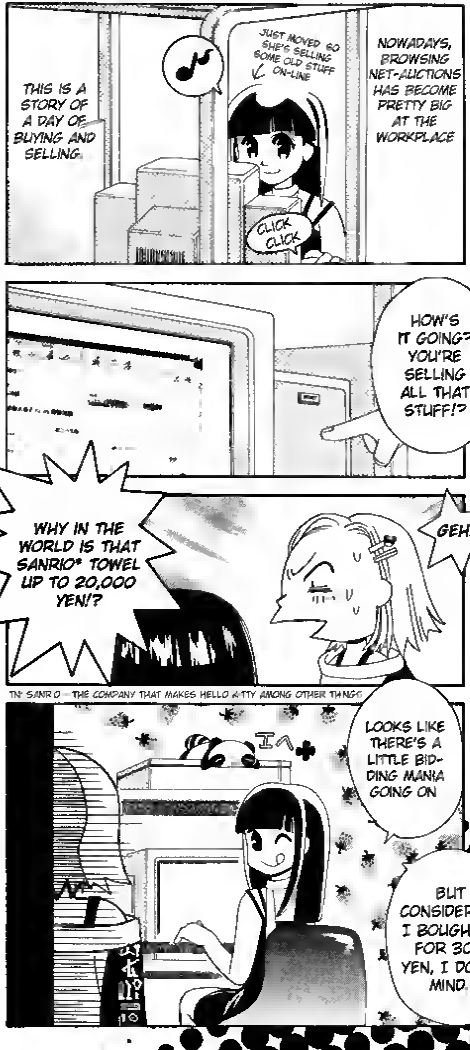
.....
GLOW
ISN'T IT CUTE?
EH? AHH...
HUH? HEY SIS, WHAT'S WITH THAT MUG?
... YEAH, IT IS
HEH
HUH... THAT THING?
IT'S WEIRD!

AND IN ALL OF JAPAN THERE'S ONLY ONE GUY WHO WOULD'VE CHOSEN THIS TACKY PRESENT. ★
HEH
[Continued in Volume 10]

GHOST BUSTING TECHNIQUES

WHA!
THUMP
SHIVER SHIVER
THE SOUND OF WIND
SCAREDY CAT
IT WAS A FAINT NOISE THAT SURPRISED ME
ONCE WHEN I WAS MOVING AND WASN'T YET TOTALLY USED TO THE NEW PLACE, I WAS FRIGHTENED BY WHAT I THOUGHT WAS A GHOST
I SAW A SCARY COPY OF MY OWN FACE IN THE MIRROR
WET HAIR
AND THEN SOMETHING THAT LOOKED LIKE IT JUST GOT OUT OF THE SHOWER
LOOKS LIKE IT'S SLATHERED IN BUTTER
SA~~ DA~~ KO ~~
BUT OLDER SOUNDING
BUT I AT LEAST COMB MY HAIR BEFORE I DO THIS
BECAUSE MY OWN FACE IS FAR SCARIER THAN ANY GHOST'S!! (CHUCKLE)
EVER SINCE THAT TIME, WHENEVER I LOOK IN A MIRROR I PLAY A GAME OF "ONE PERSON GHOST-TAG" AND THAT'S HOW I GOT OVER MY FEAR OF GHOSTS!
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH WET BLACK HAIR IS REALLY SCARY
TN: SADAKO ANOTHER TERM FOR GHOST
I GUESS IT DOES SOUND A LITTLE WEIRD, HUH? (CHUCKLE)
YOU ARE A TOTAL WEIRDO!!
D'OH
AND WHENEVER I TELL THIS STORY TO ANYONE
END

ASHI-SAN'S PAGE 13


THIS IS A STORY OF A DAY OF BUYING AND SELLING.
JUST MOVED SO SHE'S SELLING SOME OLD STUFF ON-LINE
CLICK CLICK
NOWADAYS, BROWSING NET-AUCTIONS HAS BECOME PRETTY BIG AT THE WORKPLACE
ASSISTANT'S CUBICLE
HOW'S IT GOING? YOU'RE SELLING ALL THAT STUFF!?
GEH!
WHY IN THE WORLD IS THAT SANRIO* TOWEL UP TO 20,000 YEN!?
TN: SANRIO - THE COMPANY THAT MAKES HELLO KITTY AMONG OTHER THINGS
LOOKS LIKE THERE'S A LITTLE BIDDING MANIA GOING ON
BUT CONSIDERING I BOUGHT IT FOR 300 YEN, I DON'T MIND.

by ヒトツバナ